

STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE



Thursday, August 15, 2013

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Waging a war

Councillor calls for end to zero hours contracts

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Robert returns

Rocker Plant is back with sensational band

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Legend's shirt

Wolves remember Waggy with moving tribute

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Top coach of British athletics dies at 64

ONE of Britain's top athletics coaches has died in hospital in the Black Country after a long illness.

Roger Walters, who was 64, trained a host of leading runners and was the senior UK sprint coach at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

The string of athletes he helped to transform into world class sprinters included Cathy Cook, Sonia Lannaman and Mark Lewis Francis. Mr Walters was a leading sprinter himself in his youth and competed in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

He lived in Hospital Lane, Coseley with wife Jenny. The couple have a son Andrew and daughter Jayne.

Mr Walters had been suffering from a serious illness for around 18 months and passed away on Sunday.

He had coached at Wolverhampton and Bilston Athletics Club where chairman Colin Thompson said: "He was a true gentleman as well as a great coach. The world of athletics will be upset by this terribly sad news."

Sprinter Annabelle Lewis, who was coached by Mr Walters and named in the British squad for the World Championships taking place in Moscow, said: "It was a very emotional time when I heard that I had been selected. I was absolutely ecstatic but also really sad for my coach. He was a remarkable man."

Railings man left injured

A MAN had to be rescued by firefighters after his leg was impaled on railings outside a Stourbridge church.

Crews were called to help the man who was stuck on the railings by St James's Church in Bridgnorth Road, Wollaston at just after 1.30am on Tuesday.

Firefighters from Stourbridge used a saw to cut through the metal post to free him. While the firefighters worked, ambulance staff provided pain relief to the man. After being cut free, he was taken to Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley for further treatment.

£230k PAVILION WRECKED BY FIRE

A £230,000 CRICKET pavilion has been wrecked in a suspected arson attack just three years after it replaced a building destroyed in a similar blaze.

Flames were leaping three feet into the air from the veranda when fire crews arrived at Lye Cricket Club near Stourbridge after a passing police patrol raised the alarm at 3am on Sunday.

Two other fires have since hit the borough, with a youth centre and a three-storey empty home targeted in what are believed to have been arson attacks.

At the cricket club, a plastic litter bin had been set on fire at the front of the pavilion burning through the wooden decking and sweeping under steel security shutters guarding doors and windows.

The blaze then engulfed the interior, bringing down the ceiling and wrecking fixtures and fittings.

Peter Butler, aged 77, from Amblecote who joined the club in 1975 and is now a life member, said the blaze was 'devastating'.

Season

"We have just got things sorted out after the last fire. It makes you wonder whether its worth carrying on," he said.

Club secretary Jake Hanson, 22, from Pedmore, said: "We have just got back on our feet after the last fire and were having a great season before this happened."

Their pavilion was last destroyed by fire in August 2007. It was rebuilt in 2010 after grants and fundraising. The club has played cricket at the ground in Stourbridge Road since 1858 and is currently leading Division 3 of the Worcester Border League.

Meanwhile fire chiefs believe the other blazes at the empty four-bedroom house in Tipton Road in

by Heather Large

Sedgley and youth hub at St Thomas's Network community centre, in Kates Hill, Dudley, were both started deliberately and have called in the police.

An attack at St Thomas's Network community centre in the early hours of Tuesday caused flames to shoot up 40ft into the night sky.

About 20 firefighters from Dudley, Brierley Hill, Tipton and Oldbury were sent to tackle the blaze which started around 12.25am, spending more than four-and-a-half hours at the single-storey wooden site.

It is believed yobs broke into the building, which had previously been a classroom at the former school site, through a window. Charred debris and burnt out equipment is all that is left inside.

The blaze came just hours after fire crews from Dudley, Tipton and Bilston were called to a vacant large home in Tipton Road. They arrived on Monday afternoon to find part of the roof was already engulfed in flames.

Owner Michael Webb had only purchased the house, which had been empty for around 14 years, two months ago. The 65-year-old, of Sedgley, said: "It is scheduled for demolition. There is a lot of land behind the house and I am building a dormer bungalow on the site for my son."

Zoo marks hearty rise in visitors



Senior keeper Nicola Wright with the heart shape in the grass, to celebrate the rise in visitors at Dudley Zoo

STAFF at Dudley Zoo are celebrating after visitor numbers to the site soared again for the fifth year in a row. So pleased are they with the 'hearty increase' that they have cut a heart shape in the grass at the 40-acre site to show their appreciation.

Numbers show the zoo welcomed 120,000 visitors between January to July, compared with 103,000 for the same period in 2012 – a rise of 17 per cent.

Chief executive Peter Suddock said: "We've seen a steady year-on-year

increase now since 2008 and given the current economic climate this is marvellous. The big rises of double figure increases have come in the past two years and are due to investment across the site, rebranding and our website activity which has gained us access to a whole new market."

In the past decade more than £1 million has been spent across the site and a further £3.05 million is in place to fund a four-year programme of which work is already underway. Mr Suddock added: "Dudley Zoo pio-

neered the initial development of Castle Hill through its own funds – a rare situation in today's economy."

Recent developments include the new £200,000 offices, which opened in January this year. It was followed by the revamped reptile house, which had a £15,000 investment.

Mr Suddock said: "In the past decade we've won several major tourism awards, gained national and international recognition for conservation and research work and increased our membership."

Ex-mayor may face action on downloads

A FORMER Mayor of Dudley who admitted downloading pornography onto his council computer could be brought before the authority's standards committee over his conduct, it emerged today.

Long-standing Councillor Ray Burston is being investigated over his actions by officials from Dudley Council. He resigned his role last month as Conservative group spokesman for the environment after images downloaded from adult sites were found when repair work was carried out.

Dudley Council's chief executive John Polychronakis today confirmed an investigation was under way which will report back in the next few weeks.

A decision on whether to refer the matter to Dudley Council's audit and standards sub committee in the autumn will follow shortly.

Mr Burston, who has sat on the council for 21 years during two stints, is continuing to serve as a councillor. He says he will donate his council members' allowances to the Mayor of Dudley's charities.

Dudley Council has adopted a Members' Code of Conduct.

The images were found on his laptop which should have been used only in relation to his council work. Councillor Ray Burston was unavailable for comment.

Wagstaffe's funeral date

THE funeral of former Wolves winger Dave Wagstaffe will take place on August 22, it was announced today.

The service is due at St Peter's Collegiate Church, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, at 12.30pm.

Wolves players wore black armbands at Saturday's opening home game against Gillingham, which they won 4-0 and captain Sam Rickards placed Waggy's number 11 shirt behind the goal at the North Bank.

● Golden – See Page 6

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NEWS

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£20m broadband deal

NEARLY 55,000 rural homes and businesses throughout Worcestershire – including Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley – will get superfast broadband after a £20 million deal was signed.

High-speed fibre broadband will be rolled out to more than 90 per cent of Worcestershire homes and businesses within the next three years. It follows the signing of a partnership agreement – ‘Superfast

Worcestershire’ – between Worcestershire County Council and BT, in which the authority will chip in up to £8.5m.

The initiative will build upon BT's commercial fibre rollout, which will reach more than 176,000 premises across the county by the end of Spring 2014. Simon Geraghty, the county council's deputy leader, said: “This investment is vital to our county's future economy.”

Search for governor

BIRMINGHAM Children's Hospital is searching for a new public governor from the Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton areas.

The person elected will join the hospital's Council of Governors, who are elected by the public, patients, carers and staff to represent the views of their respective areas.

They can be anyone aged 16 or over who lives in Dudley, Walsall or

Wolverhampton and will join 26 others, who jointly have a say in decisions and hold the hospital's board of directors to account.

The council meets four times a year.

Elections for the unpaid role will be held in September.

Anybody interested should email the company secretary at foundation-trust.office@bch.nhs.uk by August 16.

Councillors reject taxi fares move

A PROPOSED hike in taxi fares across the Wyre Forest district has been rejected despite drivers' concerns over rising fuel costs and licence fees.

Plans to increase the Hackney Carriage fare tariff, the maximum amount drivers can charge for journeys, had been put forward by Bewdley Taxi Association. But at a meeting of Wyre Forest District Council's licensing and environment committee, members agreed there should be no increase in fares this year.

The decision was made despite 60 workers saying they were in favour of a change during a four-week consultation. Only 21 had said they were against the increase due to fears some passengers would struggle to afford a fare increase.

Officers had recommended members increase the flag fare to £2.80 for the first half mile plus a rise of 10p for each mile after. But the charge will now remain the same – a fare of £2.70 for the first half mile.

Former MP election bid

HEALTH campaigner and former MP Dr Richard Taylor has announced that he will stand in the next general election.

Dr Taylor, aged 79, who represented Wyre Forest, has decided to go on the campaign trail again due to his ‘deep anger’ over problems plaguing the NHS and his concern over government reforms.

He will campaign under the Independent Community and Health Concern banner.

However, he believes that voters are ‘fed-up’ with the three main parties and that given a real choice, people would realise that supporting someone else would not be a wasted vote.

Dr Taylor was Wyre Forest MP for two terms between 2001 and 2010.

Vicar gets ready for retirement

A POPULAR vicar who has been responsible for as many as 5,000 parishioners in north Worcestershire is preparing to retire.

Rev Peter Kerr, aged 67, arrived in Worcestershire in 1987 to take charge of St Andrew's at Ombersley and St Mary's Church at Doverdale. More latterly, he has also been the vicar at Hartlebury, and Bishops Wood near Stourport.

Owner is jailed after dog bit a neighbour

A MAN whose bull terrier bit a woman neighbour in front of her teenage daughter has been jailed – and had his hopes of becoming a professional breeder dashed by a ban on keeping dogs.

But Daniel Davies's pregnant Staffordshire bull terrier-type dog Gucci has escaped a destruction order after Dudley Magistrates Court heard it bit the victim only after being kicked while being walked on a playing field.

Wildcat at zoo is blood donor used in research

A WILDCAT at Dudley Zoo has donated blood as part of an international research project. But the sample from 18-year-old Geoffroy's cat Bart was collected by three blood-sucking bugs instead of the usual needle approach.

The research project was carried out by veterinary medical student, Maïke Kunze, from Oldenburg in Germany, who has been collecting samples from wildcats in 13 other zoos in the UK and a further 40 across Europe since 2011.

The non-invasive procedure lasted for just under one hour, with each Triatominae bug taking up to 20 minutes to fill up on Bart's blood. Once full, Maïke syringed the blood directly from the bugs' stomachs, before sending the sample back to a laboratory in Berlin, where it will be genetically analysed.

The parasite can cause Toxoplasmosis, a common infection that occurs in most birds and mammals, including humans. The disease can cause serious complications for pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems.

Davies, aged 30, of The Farthings, Dudley, admitted allowing Gucci to be dangerously out of control near his home, between Stourbridge Road and Junction Street, and was jailed for 12 weeks.

The court heard he had two breeding pairs of Presa Canario dogs – a type originally from the Canary Islands – and a litter of eight puppies that were bound for new homes as he planned to come off benefits to breed and sell the animals.

But District Judge David Miller, who heard Davies had previous offences including robbery, threatening violence, possessing cannabis and being drunk on a railway station, told him he was not a ‘fit person’ to have dogs and banned him from keeping them for two years.

He also made an order ‘depriving’ Davies of Gucci, who was taken in by the RSPCA after the incident, but said he would not make an order to destroy the animal, who is pregnant.

Miss Amy Jackson, defending, immediately said he would appeal to the crown court against the sentence – but the judge refused to suspend the jail term or ban pending a new hearing.

Mrs Meloney Hughes, prosecuting, said Gucci was off the lead, approached a woman and her daughter and tried to attack their dog, a Doberman puppy, on February 3. The daughter kicked Gucci, who then bit her mother at the top of the leg, tearing her jeans and piercing her skin.

Museum plan for tunnel network



Paul Stokes and Peter Rhodes in one of the passages, which may be part of a museum

AN HISTORIC network of underground tunnels excavated during the Second World War is to be turned into a museum, under ambitious new plans.

Drakelow Tunnels, between Kinver and Wolverley, was used to manufacture parts for the war effort and would have been used as a regional seat of government in the event of nuclear attack.

Site owners Quercus Ilex SA want to turn the site into a museum with exhibitions of the tunnels' original war-time layout together with displays of how the area would have reacted to atomic attack.

But ‘a great amount of investment’ is needed to make the scheme a reality and restore the tunnels to the point where the museum could be created.

Plans for the museum at the site have now been submitted to Wyre Forest District Council along with proposals for a single-storey visitor centre and six houses. Cash generated from the development and sale of the houses would fund work needed on the tunnels.

If approved, the museum would create full and part-time jobs in the area.



The entrance to the Drakelow tunnels

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Reopened road joy after wall finished

A BUSY road through Sedgley which was partially closed for five months while a historic wall was rebuilt has reopened ahead of schedule.

Dudley Council has completed the £243,000 project in Gospel End Street where a new footpath has also been created.

The route had been shut since March but reopened last Thursday – more than a week earlier than expected.

The original wall was demolished and a new one built further back from the road to make space for a footpath. Some of the stonework from the previous wall has been reused in the new structure.

But the new wall is still made entirely of Gornal stone like the earlier one.

The council said it would make it safer for people walking to work and pupils walking to nearby schools. It followed repairs to the wall in 2009 following a minor collapse. The old wall was believed to date back more than 100 years.

Ward councillor Michael Evans today welcomed the completion of the scheme.

"It is an absolutely fantastic job. I have been following its progress since the very beginning," he said.

The work was carried out as part of the council's safer routes to school programme, which aims to improve road safety in the borough, particularly in streets used by parents and children walking to school.

Green light for parking

PLANS to create extra parking spaces in a Black Country High Street have been approved.

Dudley's cabinet member for transport Councillor Khurshid Ahmed has given the go-ahead for proposals to convert existing 'loading only' spaces into parking spots in Lye.

Traders and councillors have called for the council to provide more parking for people visiting the shops.

Four new spaces will be created in the High Street. The scheme is expected to cost around £2,000.

Chairman of Lye Community Association and former Lye and Wollscote ward councillor Abdul Qadus welcomed the move, saying it would be a boost for businesses in the town.

Last post for many with disappearing boxes



Councillor Pat Martin campaigned to get a postbox back in Vicarage Road, Amblecote

MORE than 80 post boxes have been lost across the Black Country and surrounding areas during the last five years, according to figures obtained by the Express & Star.

In the DY postal region, which mainly covers Dudley and north Worcestershire, Bewdley was the area most affected, having lost seven post boxes since 2008. Kidderminster and Tipton lost two each.

Val Boden of Royal Mail said: "We are proud that with our extensive network of over 115,000 post boxes, the UK has the highest level of post box provision per square kilometre of any western European nation."

Robert Hammond of the watchdog body Consumer Futures, called for a transparent and robust consultative process for post box changes that ensures people knew when a post box was going to be removed or relocated, and also gave them the opportunity to make a case for reversing the decision.

A post box in Vicarage Road, Amblecote, near Stourbridge, was removed by Royal Mail two years ago after being hit by a spate of thefts. Two of the boxes, which had been mounted on telegraph poles, had been stolen, and Royal Mail said a decision had been made to remove due to the number of thefts and the number of other boxes in the

Stourbridge area. After a concerted campaign by residents, backed by Councillors Mrs Liz Walker and Mrs Pat Martin, the box was reinstated earlier this year. But Councillor Walker said it was hard work getting it reinstated. "They're always quick to take them out, but they don't put many back," she said.

Five years ago, the WV1 postcode area which covers central Wolverhampton had 33 post boxes, but five of these have now gone. The rest of the WV postal area, which also takes in Wombourne and Coseley, has lost a net total of 10 post boxes over the last five years.

Ex guilty of trying to kill woman in petrol fireball

A MAN who poured petrol on his ex-girlfriend before setting her alight and turning her into a human 'fireball' has been found guilty of attempted murder.

Damon Sheldon went round to Louise Pilkington's Rowley Regis home with a can of petrol in the early hours of December 2. He had told the jury at Wolverhampton Crown Court, last week, that he intended to kill himself in front of her as he struggled to get over the break-up of their relationship.

The jury, however, took just three-and-a-half hours to find that he had gone to the house on Haden Walk intending to kill her, pouring petrol through her letterbox and then dousing her in it when she came to the door to see what was going on. Witnesses described seeing her burn 'like a fireball' after she was set alight.

Judge John Warner who had presided over the six-day trial warned 42-year-old Sheldon to expect a 'long period' in jail when he is sentenced in September.

During the trial, Mr Hugh O'Brien Quinn had told the jury how Sheldon had sent Miss Pilkington four text messages in the 24 hours before he went to her house, some of a threatening nature, as he tried to get her to speak with him.

After celebrating his birthday on December 1 by drinking the best part of three litres of cider, vodka and a few pints of lager, he had taken the petrol can and a claw-hammer to Miss Pilkington's home just after midnight.

Neighbours told jurors how Miss Pilkington had run onto her neighbour's front lawn, taken her night clothes off and rolled on the grass in an effort to quell the flames.

One neighbour, Nathan Parsons, throwing a bowl of water over Miss Pilkington and later described in a police statement how her skin 'sizzled' when the water hit it.

She suffered burns to 15 to 16 per cent of her body, needing skin grafts and causing scarring on her arms. Miss Pilkington told the jury during the trial that the pain was 'like I'd never felt before'.

A nine-year-old child in the house at the time managed to escape while a 13-month-old baby was rescued by Oldbury firefighter Nathan Carter. The house was badly damaged by fire.

by Sharon Marris

Storage company to star on screen



Customer service adviser Carly Biles and storage centre manager Scott Millington outside the premises in Netherton

A STORAGE company will take centre stage in a television series aimed at helping people to clear out clutter.

Anchor Self-Storage, in Netherton, was chosen to take part in the latest series of ITV1 show Storage Hoarders.

Filming for the series, hosted by former How Clean is Your House? presenter Aggie MacKenzie, took place earlier this year and the show will be broadcast from Monday.

Bosses at the firm, based in New

Road, were delighted when one of their customers was chosen to take part in the show. The series encourages people clinging on to items they have placed in storage and never use to clear out their clutter.

As part of the filming, antiques expert Paul Hayes visited the company to pick through the items in storage and find any which could then go under the hammer and be sold at auction. Items which are of no value and the owners no longer want are thrown

away. And the film crew enjoyed working at the Black Country firm so much they asked if they could film other parts of the series there.

Manager Scott Millington said: "We were contacted by the production company to see if any of our customers would be interested in taking part in the TV show. We were absolutely delighted."

The company will feature in the show in episodes to be broadcast on August 14, 15, 20 and 21.

Zumbathon £2k boost

A CHARITY Zumbathon raised more than £2,000 for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. More than 50 people of all ages took part in the three-hour beach-themed fundraiser in Kingswinford, organised by instructor Suzanne Richardson.

The event also included ice cream sales and a raffle with prizes donated by an array of businesses including Wollaston Fish Bar, West Midlands Safari Park, Towergate Insurance, Nikki C's Hair Salon and Cadbury's.

NEWS in brief

Parks groups in council awards

FRIENDS of parks groups and other volunteers from across Dudley have been rewarded for their dedication at an awards ceremony.

Dudley Council's parks development team held the sixth annual Green Spaces Volunteer Awards to thank the many volunteers who make a big difference to green spaces in the borough.

The Epic Events and Activities Award went to the Friends of Cotwall End Valley Local Nature Reserve (CEV) for their regular volunteer task groups and guided walks. The Friends of CEV also picked up the Wild! Biodiversity Awards for their contribution to the wildlife friendly maintenance of the site.

Problem of jobs is put on agenda

POLICE and parish councillors in Kinver have met to discuss a long-term solution to anti-social behaviour incidents in the village.

Although it has one of the lowest levels of anti-social behaviour in the county, they are working to reduce the number even further. During the last year, there have been 18 complaints involving noise and vehicle nuisance and 23 about rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.

Councillors have since formed an action group. Anyone with concerns should speak to local officers by ringing the non-emergency 101 number.

Multi-use games area plan agreed

PLANS to create a multi-use games area at a school have been approved, despite objections from residents living near the site.

Under the proposals, the facility would be built at Summerhill School in Lodge Road, Kingswinford.

It would measure 177ft long by 128ft wide and existing grass areas will also be covered in Tarmac or hard playing surfaces for games such as basketball.

Meeting to hear residents' views

RESIDENTS in Stourbridge can air their views at a public meeting next month. It will be hosted by police from the Wollaston and Stourbridge Town neighbourhood team.

The meeting will take place at St Thomas's Church Hall in Market Street, Stourbridge on September 11, at 7pm.

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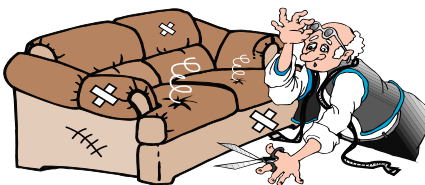
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NEWS

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IT AIN'T my dog. My dog got stolen last week. I sold it years ago. The law on dogs that kill may be toughened up to include life sentences but killer-dog owners are not blessed with much in the way of brains and will already be rehearsing their excuses. They come from the same thicko segment of the underclass which chucks bricks off motorway bridges or steals signalling wire from railways and is surprised when a crash ensues. Worst of all, the new dog laws will be reactive. First we must wait until the slaverling beast that everyone in the street knows is a potential killer actually kills someone. Better by far to pick up Chummy and his attack dog before any damage is done, identify it as a menace and have it destroyed. The dog, that is, not the owner. Mind you . . .

□□□□□□□□

AFTER playing the foul-mouthed Malcolm Tucker in *The Thick of It*, Peter Capaldi is the new star of the BBC's longest-running sci-fi drama. Forthcoming episodes include *Dr Who* and the ****ing Daleks, *Dr Who Gives the Cybermen a right ****ing Pasting* and *Dr Who Kicks Seven Sorts of **** out of those Stone Angels*.

□□□□□□□□

WE NOW have almost 800 members of the House of Lords – more old bottoms than red benches to accommodate them. Packing pensioners into a chamber so small is surely a form of elder abuse. The time has come for peers to be appointed not for life but for five or 10 years. After that they could keep the title but hang up their ermine, clear out of Westminster and make space for another backside.

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A SURVEY finds that a quarter of parents let their children aged 12-15 try alcohol on holiday. Fleet Street's finest have been debating whether this is a wise way to introduce kids to booze or plain irresponsible. I bet in some cases it's the old parent-as-chum syndrome in which Mum and Dad want to be regarded not as proper grown-ups but as their kids' best pals. We've all seen them, and what a ridiculous sight they are. "We're more like sisters, really," says Mum, buying her 12-year-old daughter a T-shirt with the slogan "Porn Star" and pouring a couple of pina colodas down her innocent neck.

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THIS week's furore about the number of charity bosses earning £100,000-plus prompts Sir Stephen Bubb, head of the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations to wail: "Many MPs on the Right hate effective charities who campaign." In truth, people don't hate charities. It's just that we're wising up to the fact that some of them are more like big businesses – with one crucial difference. Real companies are set up to make things, maintain things or sell things. They aim to complete every contract and stamp it "Job done." Most big charities have no intention of completing the task they set out to do. They grow and morph, changing their aims and expanding their brief. If you believe the animal charities, Britons are crueler to animals today than they have ever been, and are getting worse. If you believe the child-cruelty charities, Britain is populated largely by baby-batterers. And if you believe the Africa charities, the face of that continent today is exactly what it was 50 years ago, a stick-thin baby holding out a bowl. It seems the more we give, the worse things get.

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NICK Hewer of *The Apprentice* memorably dismissed Ed Miliband as "tall, arrogant, weak handshake." Now, the Canadian comedian Stewart Francis says Miliband reminds him of "a security guard who's just heard a noise in the warehouse." Once such images are planted in the public mind they are desperately hard to erase.

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AS THE food boffins tinker with stem cells to create the world's first artificial burger, whatever happened to all that Tomorrow's World stuff about a machine to turn grass into milk? We have the grass. We have the plastic bottles. It seems quite bizarre that we still rely on cows to do the bit in between.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Plan to flatten pub sparks outcry



The Swan Inn at Halesowen

REAL ALE enthusiasts have objected to fresh plans to demolish a Black Country pub and replace it with a shop.

Punch Taverns has submitted new proposals to knock down the Swan Inn, in Long Lane, Halesowen, disappointing residents who had claimed victory when the designs for the original scheme were withdrawn.

Now the Stourbridge and Halesowen branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra) has lodged an objection to the development saying the building is important to the community. Around 700 people have signed a petition calling for a

rethink on the plans which would see the pub replaced with a single-storey shop.

The scheme had sparked concerns over traffic safety and potential impact on neighbours. Punch Taverns withdrew the proposals that had been lodged with Dudley Council but a week later resubmitted them.

The pub chain said the Swan is no longer viable as a business.

Camra pub preservation officer Simon Jenner has written to the council. He says: "The council needs to support the community and listen to the community."

"I firmly believe the original deci-

sion was correct and should stand."

Halesowen North councillor Jeff Hill has pledged to continue to fight the plans. "Traffic and impact on the neighbours are among my main concerns," he said.

Punch Taverns has resubmitted its application with a supporting letter from Leicestershire-based planning solicitors Marrons.

The company says any adverse impact is outweighed by benefits to business competition, customer choice and employment.

Sarah Maia, spokesman for Pitches Tavern, said: "The previous application was withdrawn due to technical issues."

Limestone
grassland
set to be
restored

A PROJECT to restore rare limestone grassland on Sedgley Beacon will get under way in the autumn, it was announced today.

Funding has been secured to carry out the work aimed at encouraging wildlife to the area. The site is popular with walkers as it provides panoramic views across the Black Country and Staffordshire.

As part of the project, overgrown areas will be cut back to provide more space for wildflowers which in turn will attract pollinating insects and other wildlife such as birds and small mammals. The work will be carried out in two phases, with the first starting this autumn and the second in autumn 2014.

Dudley Council was recently awarded funding from the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country to improve the grassland. It has not yet been revealed how much is being spent on the project.

When the quarry was abandoned, nature took over and its geology has enabled some rare and interesting colonies of plants to grow. It was once designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest and has been recognised as one of the finest examples of limestone grassland in the Black Country.

It is hoped the work will help the declining species of bees and butterflies.

Estate agents
is to be bistro

A new bistro in Dudley town centre opens in September. The Crepe Station Cafe is being created in the former Stone Street offices of D B Roberts estate agents.

Anita Darlak, who is one of the directors, said that refurbishment of the premises was currently being carried out.

"We are looking to open at the beginning of September and will be taking on two staff," she said.

Golfing day due

A fundraising day will be held in aid of a Stourbridge advice centre. The golf day will take place at Little Lakes Golf Club in Bewdley on Saturday. Around 40 golfers are expected to take part in a tournament in aid of The What? Centre in Stourbridge. For details contact 01384 379992.

Give us real jobs with
real wages, says father

by Louise Jew

THE FATHER of a Black Country teenager on a 'zero hours' job contract has spoken out after she was left without work or wages for five weeks.

Eighteen-year-old Amy Lowe, from Stourbridge, says she has been told it will be at least another two weeks before she will get her next shift – paying slightly under £5 an hour – at baked potato outlet Spudulike in Dudley's Merry Hill Centre.

And her father, Labour party prospective parliamentary candidate for Stourbridge Pete Lowe, has criticised the sharp rise in such contracts, which are currently under a review ordered by Business Secretary Vince Cable.

Guaranteed

The issue has become a political hot potato since the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development found that one in five companies surveyed employed at least one person on a zero hours contract, in which staff are not guaranteed work from one week to the next.

It estimates that more than a million UK workers are on the contracts – including more than 30,000 care workers in the West Midlands.

Such contracts – under which employees are not guaranteed work from one week to the next – are also more common in the hotel, leisure and catering industries.

The latest figures contradict Office for National Statistics reports last week, which said that a total of 250,000 people were on the contracts in the UK.

Amy, of Nuthatch Drive, Ambleside, who signed up as a shift worker for Spudulike six months ago but has worked there only sporadically since, said: "It's horrible.



Councillor Pete Lowe outside the Merry Hill Shopping Centre where his daughter works on a zero hours contract

"I'm now struggling for money – at my age I shouldn't rely on my parents. The fact is, these zero hours contracts are unreliable and not fair."

Amy, who lives with her father, a leading Dudley councillor and Unison union officer, mother Sue, a health visitor, and sister, Katie, aged 16, wanted regular work with Spudulike as she studied for her A levels at Halesowen College.

She says the most she has worked in any week was three days and that she has been offered no work in the

last five weeks, despite ringing up every Thursday to find out if she has been allotted any shifts.

"For me, it's frustrating – not life-threatening," said Amy.

"But for some people it could be the difference between eating and not eating."

Thousands

Mr Lowe said: "Zero hours contracts do nothing to assist our community in Stourbridge."

"Uncertainty of when you will work and therefore be paid results

in reduced income and reduced spending in our local towns and communities."

"It is now thought that around one million people are employed on zero hours contracts, thousands of them in Stourbridge."

"We need real jobs, with real wages to stimulate growth and investment."

"How can people caught in the zero hours trap be expected to make plans to improve their lives?"

Nobody was available for comment at Spudulike.

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Mayor in thanks for donation

THE mayor of Dudley has praised his borough's Muslim community after a £1,000 donation to his charities.

Councillor Alan Finch visited Dudley's Central Mosque to join in their Grand Iftar – an event marking the breaking of the fast which Muslims take part in throughout the month of Ramadan.

The mosque community handed over £1,000 to Councillor Finch for his charities, which are White House Cancer Support and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Councillor Finch said: "This is a wonderful donation and I thank the members of the mosque community for their kind-hearted gesture. These are very worthwhile causes and as mayor I am committed to doing what I can to raise money for them."

Mosque chairman Mohammed Aurangzeb said: "The Muslim community donate through the year to many good causes and Ramadan sees increased generosity to the poor and those less fortunate than themselves."

Workers in 2012 event

A COMPANY in the Black Country has been helping to keep the Olympic legacy alive by staging a series of events in the region.

Employees at Pertemps People Development Group, which has offices in Dudley have been going for gold in celebration of the first anniversary of the London Olympic Games.

The training and welfare to work specialists staged a sporting day. Events included a man versus food challenge, cream cracker and ice lolly eating contest, croquet, giant jenga, football juggling, table tennis and static cycle challenges.

MP Williamson backs changes

A £50,000 PROJECT to refurbish Kinner High Street has been welcomed by Southat Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson.

Mr Williamson called the revamp a victory for local campaigners and traders, who claimed that the existing layout introduced in 2011, had led to a significant fall in trade. He said: "I think everyone is absolutely delighted."

Shops' memorial to Churchill may be restored



The Churchill Precinct mosaic in 1969

A FAMOUS memorial to wartime leader Winston Churchill could be resurrected as part of new developments planned for the site of a derelict office block.

The mosaic was the centrepiece of Dudley's original Churchill Precinct for more than 20 years but was taken down in 1991 after vandal attacks and weather damage took their toll.

A campaign to restore the memorial and return it to the town was launched earlier this year by Dudley North MP Ian Austin.

And he today (Sat) announced talks were taking place with developers working on buildings intended to replace the town's disused Cavendish House about the project.

Mr Austin said he hoped they would agree

to commission an entirely new or restored memorial as part of the development. If they opted to restore the memorial it would use the few surviving fragments of the original mosaic which has been kept in storage by Dudley Council.

It is believed only eight of the original 17 stained glass panels still exist. The main panel, which featured a representation of Mr Churchill, are among those not held in the archive. Dudley Council has been studying just how much of the original glasswork exists and its condition should it be re-used.

Mr Austin said: "We have been looking at exactly what remains of the original artwork although much was damaged by vandals and the weather. I am hoping we

will be able to persuade the developers of the new planned to replace Cavendish House to commission a new or restored memorial.

"The piece would form part of the new development. This site is very close to where the original was located and we ought to be able to get it down in time for the 50th anniversary of Mr Churchill's death in two years time."

Plans to restore the memorial have received the backing of Mr Churchill's grandson Nicholas Soames, who is himself a Conservative MP for Mid-Sussex.

David Lewis, the son of John T Lewis who created and designed the original Churchill Precinct and Birdcage Walk, has also supported the project.

Devoted son remains on the trail of mother's special ring

A DEVOTED son is trying to trace a ring worn by his mother which he fears could have been stolen just days before her death.

David Siviter first became aware the treasured item was missing when a cousin pointed it out to him following the death of his mother, May, on September 12, 2001.

by Louise Jew

A thorough search of the address he and his mother shared in Woodsetton failed to turn up the ring – and, at the time, Mr Siviter put it down to simply being lost.

But after finding a picture of his mother wearing the ring five years later, the 76-year-old vowed to find the jewellery which had meant so much to her.

And the former second-hand car dealer said he now believes it could have been stolen and, if so, hoped someone would recognise the piece and return it.

Purchased

Mr Siviter said his mother had purchased the 18-carat, three-stone gold diamond ring at the Jewellery Quarter, in Birmingham, in 1965 and had worn it every day since.

"My mother died just three weeks before her 93rd birthday. I did not notice the ring was gone until it was pointed out to me by a cousin," he said.

"We turned the house upside down and inside out to see if we could find it but it did not show up and at the time there was an awful lot to do."

"I believe it could have been stolen. If that is the case it would have happened very close to her death which is awful."

"She was very well until the end. However it means someone may know where it

is and may recognise it. All of this would have happened around September 2011 close to the time of terrorist attacks in the USA. It may jog someone's memory."

Mr Siviter said his mother had been a newsagent in Tipton for more than 20 years between 1949 and 1971 and had proved so successful she had been able to extend the business.

The shop based in Park Lane East, and called Siviters, was well-known in the community for many years. He said: "My mother was a very determined and hard-working person. It is not easy running a business like that – you are committed to it seven days a week."

"I did not realise until I was much older just what a shrewd and brilliant businesswoman my mother was. She was actually able to expand the business."

Mr Siviter and his brother were raised by their mother after she split from their father in the 1930s.

"My mother came from Dudley. She raised us on her own at the same time as running the business successfully."

"She was a wonderful woman. This is reason why I am so eager to get back the ring. It meant an awful lot to her."

● People who can help Mr Siviter are asked to call him on 01902 883239.



David Siviter, of Dawlish Road, Dudley, who is determined to find his late mother's diamond ring, missing for 12 years

Kings of business have it all wrapped up

BLACK Country brothers Ben and Will Hamblin proved themselves the best in the UK at creating customised advertisement artwork for vehicles.

The pair, who started their Cradley business Wrap Kings six years ago, took part in a vehicle wrap master competition at the Federation of European Screen Printers Association's sign trade show at the ExCel London Exhibition Centre. It comes after Wrap Kings was highly commended in industry awards last year.

The firm entered the Sign and Digital Show awards for the first time in 2012 and finished runner up in the vehicle wrap category in competition with businesses across the country.

Wrap Kings also offers a service to provide carbon fibre for car bonnets and roofs.

Customers come to Wrap Kings with artwork and the business offers a three to five-day service to produce it and it offers a one year warranty.

In the UK heats Will, aged 26, and

Ben, 24, finished top team and qualified for the world final in which they finished fourth. Will was second in the UK in the individual section and seventh in the world. The finalists had won through from FESPA exhibitions staged around the globe.

Wrap Kings is based in Maypole Fields, Cradley Enterprise Centre.

They employ one other worker in the business. Examples of the brothers' work is featured on their website www.wrapkings.co.uk

NEWS

in brief

Sailing ahead for finding new talent

THE search is on for Britain's next Olympic sailing star following the launch of a scheme to encourage more children to take part in the sport.

Himley Hall Sailing Club, based in the council of Himley Hall, off Dudley Road, has signed up to a flagship grassroots scheme run by the national governing body the Royal Yachting Association.

It will see low-cost sailing and windsurfing opportunities for nearby school and youth groups.

For more information visit www.himleyhallsc.org.uk

Outdoor fitness gear is installed

NEW outdoor gym equipment has been installed in Kinner. The parish council has installed the equipment at the village's Marsh Playing Fields.

Two double work stations – a leg press rider and a shoulder press unit – have been installed next to the children's area at the playing fields, in Legion Drive.

The facility has been built thanks to a grant from the Big Lottery's Awards for All fund.

UKIP's Etheridge joins with Farage

DUDLEY and Halesowen UKIP chairman Bill Etheridge will join his party's leader Nigel Farage at a rally in Telford.

Mr Etheridge, who heads UKIP's Campaign against Political Correctness, will be among the hosts of the event, to be attended by Mr Farage, at The International Centre, St Quentin Gate, Telford on September 5.

Flood of hopefuls try for pet posts

HUNDREDS of jobseekers applied for just 11 posts at a pet store opening at Dudley's Merry Hill shopping centre next month.

More than 400 people went for the jobs at Pets at Home, which has invested £459,000 in a store, due to open on September 13, which will take over part of the premises occupied by Mothercare.

Team to pull it off

AMERICAN football team The Sandwell Steelers are to compete in a bus pull challenge at the Black Country Living Museum. The event at the site in Dudley is on August 26.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

WHAT is up with the people of the West Midlands? The first half-decent summer in years, and suddenly there is an outbreak of rampant nudism. Last week it was an application for a nude reading group in Dudley library, this week it is a naturist bar at an hotel in Erdington.

Regarding the latter proposal, Councillor Robert Alden fears it would attract teenagers and troublemakers, and lead to 'a rise in inappropriate behaviour and displays of flesh'.

Really? Do you get teenage nudists? I always assumed, based on reports in all the good tabloids, you understand, that all naturists were at least 60 years old, had bulging beer guts, and were preferably German.

While the scenario outlined by Councillor Alden seems a tad far-fetched, it would at least make for a few laughs.

Who would stop all these teenage nudist troublemakers from gatecrashing? Maybe they would need to hire some naked bouncers, but where would they hang their walkie talkies? Still, there would be no need to frisk anyone on the door.

Hotel owner Tim Higgs says the councillor had completely misunderstood the proposals, saying he only wants to serve drinks on the lawn.

"It is a spa, a respectful, quality establishment for naturists, not a pub. You can't just come in off the street," he says, adding that councillors were free to visit the premises whenever they wished. Sounds like a site visit to me.

Still, this seems positively normal compared to the application for a nude reading group at Dudley library. Why would anyone want to spend their weekends in a public library reading paperbacks in the buff? In what should surely have been flagged up in a section marked 'too much detail', the group said they would be bringing their own towels to keep the furniture clean.

□□□□□

NICE to see that the Spanish Government has shown calm and restraint in the debate about Gibraltar's sovereignty.

After Spain brought its border with Gibraltar to a standstill with a range of checks and controls not seen since the days of Franco, the British Government has responded with a threat of legal action.

The Royal Navy is now sending warships to the Mediterranean, while Spain is threatening to gang up with Argentina by supporting its stance over the Falklands. If that is not enough, the Spanish town of Candelera has now named one of its streets after, ahem, John Major. This one is going to get very ugly indeed.

□□□□□

MEANWHILE, over at the Edinburgh fringe festival, playwright Kevin Toolis unveils his latest work, a political satire entitled *The Confessions of Gordon Brown*. And no, it doesn't star Robin Askrivith.



Dave in a car driven by pal Davey Jones



The star winger, third from left, when Wolves won the League Cup in 1974



Dave signs memorabilia a reunion dinner

Old golden wonder Waggy's glory days

MARTIN SWAIN takes an affectionate look back at the life and times of Wolves favourite Dave Wagstaffe, who died last week at 70

THERE are some footballers who just have it, who capture that part of us which will forever be childlike in our appreciation, who give the beautiful game the wonder that captures our hearts.

Dave Wagstaffe was one of those men. He was not Wolves' most successful player. Waggy won a promotion, a League Cup, and a runners-up medal from the now defunct UEFA Cup.

Nor could we say he was the club's greatest, not with a cast-list of such celebrated figures who piled up championships and international caps. But Waggy was that little bit special; a footballer who for a generation of fans – and not necessarily just of gold and black persuasion – brought the promise of something exciting, something different and magical to their Saturday afternoons.

He was right for the times, of course. The Christmas of 1964 brought him to Molineux and I Feel Fine was No.1 to provide a fitting signature launch to a Wolves career perfectly tailored to the changing mood of a nation caught up in the excitement of that decade.

He was a maverick, a scamp, a bit of old-fashioned working class kid of the street realising that the old days of deference were coming to an end. Even Bill McGarry, a manager he disliked and who evoked the same sternness that Stan Cullis brought to Molineux's corridors, turned a blind eye to Waggy's infamous fag in the toilets just before kick-off and usually at half time.

But perhaps the spirit and magic of



Wolves legend Waggy in action against Arsenal's Brendon Batson in 1973

Dave Wagstaffe is best captured in the recollections from a pal who spent his formative years in wide-eyed wonder at the winger who could send the North Bank the wrong way with one drop of his shoulder.

Recalling his debut against Aston Villa, he recalled: "Of course, this was in the days before Twitter or Facebook had even been thought of never mind invented and we turned up at Molineux on Boxing Day for the Villa game when they announced over the tannoy: 'And at No.11 today, a change from the programme for Wolves, Dave Wagstaffe.'"

"I can still hear the murmur that

went round the ground. You can't imagine it now but that was the first we heard about it. I think they had only signed him that morning.

"I remember it so well because it would be the day one great Wolves career ended – Peter Broadbent played his last game – and another began. Because Waggy stepped out and held us spellbound that day and for the next 10 years. The pitch was frosty and hard as you can imagine but what balance – and his left foot was just magical. Mystical. Such a left foot. 'Wagstaffe – Dougan – Richards – goal!' We seemed to hear that all the time over the next 10 years."

His finest performance, many reckoned, came in that away leg of the 1972 UEFA Cup final when that faultless left foot gave Wolves hope of overturning the decisive defeat in the home leg against Spurs with a quite stunning goal. Bill Nicholson, the double-winning legendary Tottenham manager, admitted afterwards the better team had lost and that Waggy had frightened the life out of him.

And there were the escapades and stories to go with his vibrant football, of course, vividly captured by the man himself in his autobiography 'Waggy's Tales'.

Remember that summer tour to the States where the team played as 'Los Angeles Wolves' in a mini-season and word came back that the left winger was quitting the game to become – of all things – road manager to The Monkees?

Illuminate

It wasn't that far from truth either as the American pop band's lead singer, Dave Jones, was a schoolboy friend from Waggy's Manchester upbringing and the Wolves footballer was half tempted with a rock star lifestyle. Of course he was. But thankfully, he stayed to illuminate the first half of the Seventies before drifting into a retirement that, shorn of the millionaire's pile a player of his calibre would earn today, took him back to his own folk.

He ran a hotel in Blackpool, returned to this city to run pubs in Bushbury and Castlecroft and, naturally, Waggy's Bar at Molineux.

His final appearance at Molineux was to receive his induction to the club's Hall of Fame. As a member of the committee charged with the task of nominations, I won't be alone in thanking providence we got to him in the nick of time.

It was clear from that evening's reception just how cherished he is and always will be in the hearts and minds of Wolves fans.

● To view the Express & Star's last video with Waggy at the Hall of Fame Dinner in January click on www.expressandstar.com

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A TEENAGER from Tettenhall went to mow the meadow – and ended up in the canal. Richard Rochelle was cutting the grass on a Black Country industrial estate when his motor mower careered down a bank into the water.

CANDIDATES in the Bilston East by-election were hard at work helping people at opposite ends of the age scale. Conservative candidate Peter Hazeldine sorted out a road surface wrangle for elderly residents, while Liberal-SDP Alliance representative Ann Nightingale opened a playgroup for youngsters.

AN Oldbury father and son ended up in beds next to each other at hospital on the same day. Thomas O'Connor was taken to Sandwell District General Hospital after complaining of stomach pains, where he was joined by son, Stephen, who was having his appendix removed.

1993...

AN iron horse almost sparked a stampede scare after a train passenger mistook a sculpture for the real thing. Police launched a search after an elderly woman reported seeing a charging horse near the line at Coseley.

STARS from the Midlands music scene turned out in force to pay tribute to a Kingswinford musician who co-founded pop group The Wonder Stuff. Members of Pop Will Eat Itself and Ned's Atomic Dustbin were amongst 60 mourners who paid tribute to Rob Jones at St Mary's Church in Kingswinford.

A NEWLYWED from Wolverhampton was facing six months away from her American husband because US officials refused to allow her to enter the country. Leesa Alexander was told she would have to wait for her immigration papers to be processed.

2003...

A FOOTBALL-MAD Tipton teenager snapped up the world record for having his photograph taken with the most players. Aston Villa fan Thomas Gill made the Guinness Book of Records after having his picture taken with 510 players, including David Beckham and Alan Shearer.

WOLVES fans besieged the Molineux hotline for tickets for the game against Manchester United at Old Trafford – only to be left on hold for hours after a switchboard breakdown.

SPECIAL transport was laid on in Wolverhampton to help A-level students attend classes in city schools and colleges. The scheme was aimed at increasing learning opportunities for the city's students.

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LETTERS

Telling words must not be forgotten

"WE MUST make sure that nothing like this can ever happen again." How many times have we heard these words coming from the mouths of so-called social workers in the past decade.

I use the words 'so-called' deliberately, with no intention of maligning the well-meaning and well-trained social workers who, on the whole, do excellent work throughout the country.

But I can't help noticing that all too often in the sad cases such as that of little Daniel Pelka, who was so cruelly beaten and starved to death by his own mother and her partner, far too many of the social workers seem to me to be

little more than schoolchildren themselves.

That's not to say that young men and women can't do very useful work within the social services.

However, I do feel that where there is a case for a child or children to be put under the supervision of social services that a more mature woman, of say middle age would be much more likely to spot the tell-tale signs so sadly missed by the younger generations of schoolteachers, social workers, and yes, even overlooked by the police.

Can anyone imagine a woman in her middle years and having raised her own family failing to notice that there was

something drastically amiss with Daniel? Failed to notice that he was continually foraging for scraps of food in the dustbins, failed to notice that he was stealing from his classmates' lunchboxes, I very much doubt it.

Social service personnel who are given the honour of looking after the welfare of children must be men and women who have experience of life especially of the not-so-simple task of rearing a family. I suppose the best we can hope for is that this time we can indeed 'make sure that nothing like this can ever happen again'.

B PARSONS,
Millard Road, Coseley

Excellence of family's treatment

IN RESPONSE to Mr Etheridge's letter, I feel I must write about my experience of Russells Hall Hospital.

My daughter was diagnosed with Crohns Disease 13 years ago and as a result has had numerous stays as well as ongoing treatment and consultation there.

My husband was admitted as a day case patient for surgery and my other daughter has had two children in the maternity ward. Not one of them suffered neglect or maltreatment and in fact I can only describe the service as outstanding.

All the staff involved including doctors, nurses and other non-medical staff were attentive and friendly and could not do more to make everyone's stay as comfortable as possible.

Whilst Mr Etheridge is collecting horror stories for his dossier I can suggest that an appeal is made for positive ones as well?

PAT TAYLOR
Howley Grange Road
Halesowen

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Where were friends before bingo move?

YOU have to ask yourself where were the Friends of the Dudley Hippodrome when it succumbed to ignominy of being turned into a bingo hall, and before it finally shut its doors some four years or so ago?

Until the Council put forward plans to demolish it and reportage appeared in the press I had no idea this body even existed. The Friends of Dudley Hippodrome, want this decision to be reversed and if I am right, they want the building made over to them for restoration.

It was a Vaudeville theatre once, an anachronism now and like many theatres in provincial towns, modern times, lack of patronage and costs obviously overtook it. Fortunately in the borough there are town halls and theatre venues that provide theatrical tastes to suit everyone's taste.

The building in question is decrepit, but to give it away as Friends of the Dudley Hippodrome suggests is ludicrous. You can be pretty sure that in the great scheme of things that somewhere along line there would be requests for loans or grants from the taxpayer's purse. Better and more rewarding developments for the site can be found.

JOHN B WALDRON, Allan Close, Stourbridge

Selling off NHS

IS THERE anything this Tory government won't privatise? It was quietly announced that they had sold off the blood transfusion and plasma service to an American firm which was founded by Mitt Romney the Republican friend of Cameron.

The fiasco of the privately run 111 service and the closure of A&E departments are other examples of this government's dogmatic road to full privatisation of the NHS, yet some people still believe our mendacious PM.

BRENDON BURGESS
Birmingham Road
Dudley

Let them earn

I HAVE a lovely 16 year old grandson and he attends Halesowen College on flexi-hours. Like most of our teenagers they need a bit of money to buy bits and bobs.

We all know these are expensive times for parent, so I would love to bring back the Saturday jobs we used to have years ago. My two daughters both had Saturday jobs and loved it. Let's give these kids a chance in life to work for a living.

D A HALL
Halesowen

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MEMORY LANE



The interior of the Turner factory, an old RAF building



A late Turner sports car pictured in the mid-60s



Two Turners in racing colours at Pendeford in the snow



Two Turners awaiting delivery at Pendeford in the 60s



Turner Sports cars at Halfpenny Green in 2012

It's Turner sports car to take a bow

by Alec Brew

ON Sunday there will be the annual Turner Sports Car gathering at Bantock Park, and two weeks later on Sunday, September 1, as part of the Autumn Wings & Wheels Event at Halfpenny Green, a new Turner Rally is planned.

Turner owners will be invited to drive their sports cars from Wolverhampton Airport to Wolverhampton Airport, from the site of the factory where they were made at Pendeford Airport to a building identical to the Turner factory at Halfpenny Green.

Jack Turner was already a well-known figure in motor racing when he decided to make his own sports cars.

The Turner factory began in the Old Smithy at Seisdon, but moved to Merridale Street Wolverhampton in 1953, and then to Wolverhampton Airport, Pendeford in 1956, into one of the old wartime RAF buildings, which covered the area where the Pendeford Business Park is now sited.

After the RAF left, all the wartime buildings had been taken over by a number of small companies.

Jack designed a simple entry-level sports car, with a ladder frame body and an attractive fibreglass body. He used engines and running gear from a number of sources including Austins, Ford and Coventry Climax.

They had very good handling and a good power to weight ratio, and were soon doing well in sports car racing, surprising a number of more famous makes like Healeys and MG.

More than 600 were made before the factory closed in 1966, and the very loyal Turner Register, holds annual rallies at Bantock Park, and in America, where quite a number were exported.

Turners have already been displayed at a previous Halfpenny Green Wings & Wheels event, but this year there will be a new twist as they gather at the site of the former factory, now demolished, and drive in convoy to Halfpenny Green, where the standard wartime RAF buildings still remain, to be photographed outside one, a nostalgic reminder of Wolverhampton's last car manufacturer.



Some of the Turner workers gathered outside the factory

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NEWS

Speedy memories are put back on track with library exhibition



Former Cradley rider and world champ Eric Gundersen seen with adoring fans

THE history of Cradley Heathens and speedway in the Black Country has been brought to life at an exhibition.

Photographs, posters and tickets from 1945 to the present day will be on display at Wolverhampton Central library until Saturday.

Bilston Black Country Memories Club has organised the display which features mementos from the Wolves and Cradley speedway teams in years gone by.

Fantastic

Club publicity officer Gerald Hanrahan said: "Speedway is a fantastic sport for both men, women, old and young. This new display is really special because it shows people how it all started in 1949 and takes you right up to the present day.

"There are posters of all the great racers in two cabinets, including Ole Olsen, golden oldie Graham Warren and Peter Karlsson who still rides today.

Some of the photographs include a picture of the Wolves speedway team celebrating after becoming champions in the 2009 season, beating the Swindon Robins 95-90 on aggregate in the finale.



Librarian and speedway fan Sally Knight, at the display

Drink more to help out pubs

BEER lovers in Dudley are being urged to drink more – to help stop pub closures and push the industry back into growth. If the millions of people who go to a pub bought just one extra pint a month, the fortunes of Britain's locals would receive a huge boost, said campaigners.

The Campaign for Real Ale said many pub-goers were visiting a pub less often than a year ago, leading to a slump in beer sales.

Around 7.8 million pints were sold last year, compared with 8.4 million in 2010, with an average of 26 pubs closing every week in the UK.

The campaign was being stepped up at Camra's Great British Beer Festival in London, which opened today.

Chief executive Mike Benner said: "Around 32 million people in the UK enjoy a beer at least once a year, but the number of people drinking in pubs has been on the decline, contributing to an overall fall in beer sales."

Cheeky call of naturist bookworms is dismissed

NATURIST bookworms had some bare-faced cheek – when they asked for permission to strip off and hold regular nude reading sessions at a Black Country library.

The nude reading group offered to bring in towels so that members could cover the chairs they would sit on and robes to put on in case they needed to flee if there was a fire alert.

But Dudley Library chiefs vetoed the idea on the grounds it would cause too much disruption and not be a 'proper' use of publicly owned premises. They have, however, offered to supply books to them if they decide to meet to read in the nude at a member's home.

Dudley Councillor Stuart Turner, chief of the borough's libraries, agreed the idea of such a group was a bit of an eye-opener.

"I was a bit surprised by the request," said Councillor Turner. Personally I wouldn't have the first clue about what the attraction would be of a nude reading group. They wanted to use a room in the main library on a Saturday morning.

"I heard they would bring

by Louise Jew

towels to protect the seats. But it's an approach we declined because it would not be an appropriate or proper use of public premises."

He added: "It's not for us to make a judgment on what anyone does but public nudity isn't the norm and we have to operate within certain levels of decency.

"It would also have caused massive disruption – we would have had to set aside quite a substantial room every Saturday morning, which would be a disruption if it was any group.

"I never worried about whether Mrs Jones was going to go round a corner and bump into someone with no clothes on – and didn't even get round to considering whether we might have to black out the windows or how it might affect the comings and goings of staff who needed to use the room."

Stop pouring fat call by water firm bosses

A WATER treatment works has been dealing with double the amount of water it normally has to in the wake of heavy rain over recent weeks.

Severn Trent normally deals with around 400 million litres of water a day but the treatment works in Birmingham has been dealing with double that during the recent heavy downpours. As a result bosses are now urging people in Dudley borough to avoid pouring fat down their drains amid concerns it could cause flooding problems.

Chris Giles, waste water manager for Severn Trent said: "Unfortunately, in stormy weather of this magnitude, the drains and sewers often have significantly more water flowing through them than they are designed to take, and this can lead to overflowing and flooding."

Alert on designer fakery

FAKE designer gear, mock-branded headphones and duff jewellery – complaints over the selling of counterfeit goods are soaring across the region.

Dudley Council's teams completed 12 investigations, leading to eight convictions and one formal caution. Two months ago, a couple from Halesowen were convicted of 30 charges each for counterfeiting. Wayne Hinton, aged 40, and Samantha Blizzard, 34, filled their three-bedroom house in Halesowen with £75,000 of fake designer items, and then sold them in a makeshift display room.

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NEWS

Thief laughs at one-man crimewave claim by judge

Garden is a haven for couple



Don Hall enjoys a glass of wine with wife Barbara in their thriving garden

PLENTY of sun and showers have been a welcome boost to British gardeners, with flower beds full of colourful blooms and trees laden with fruit.

And one green-fingered resident who has made the most of the warm weather is 74-year-old Don Hall, who treats his garden as a haven since being diagnosed with throat cancer. Mr Hall credits working in his garden for putting him back on the road to recovery, and he spends as much time as he can tending his flowers.

His garden in Netherton is full to the brim with everything from

marigolds to geraniums. Despite everything Mother Nature has thrown at it, he says his garden is 'better than ever' this year.

Mr Hall, who used to work at BRD in Aldridge and previously lived in Pelsall, Walsall, said: "It's been absolutely perfect growing weather. "Our garden is absolutely beautiful this year."

The former car components inspector, who lives with wife and retired florist Barbara, 72, said his garden had been a haven since his cancer diagnosis eight years ago.

● For video log on to www.expressandstar.co.uk

A MAN laughed when a judge described him as a 'one-man crimewave' after a court heard he admitted more than 100 thefts from cars in a Black Country town, netting almost £20,000.

But 25-year-old Dale Mowat then claimed that he had been made a 'scapegoat' and police forced him to admit to 94 offences to be considered by the court just to clear up their crime detection rates.

District Judge David Miller told Mowat, of Ridge Grove, Stourbridge: "This is a one-man crimewave."

"It's approaching £20,000. There are 100 separate victims to this man's crime spree."

The judge, sitting at Dudley Magistrates Court, sent him in custody to Wolverhampton Crown Court to be sentenced on August 28, saying the value of the items stolen exceeded his powers of sentencing.

Dressage

Mowat admitted entering Stourbridge Children's and Family Centre with intent to steal on June 3, seven thefts from vehicles and two attempted thefts, in the Stourbridge area, between December and June.

The total value of those items, which included a dressage top hat, was more than £3,000. He asked for 94 further thefts from vehicles to be considered - and the judge said the value of those exceeded £15,000.

When Mowat laughed at the description of him as a one-man crime wave, Mr Harpreet Jhawar, defending, said his client had some mental health issues.

As he faced custody and sentencing at crown court, Mowat shouted he had been forced into admitting the extra offences.

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NEWS

Further stage of college plan unveiled

PLANS for the next stage of a multi-million pound learning quarter in the heart of Dudley have been unveiled.

Dudley College wants to open a specialist maths block for full and part-time students, which will be called Dudley Enhance.

A two-storey building will be constructed next to the existing Dudley Sixth campus, off Ednam Road and Priory Road.

Bosses say the popularity of the sixth form centre, which opened in September, has prompted the plans for the development to cater for a growing number of students.

Start

A planning application lodged with Dudley Council has been approved by council officers, who have welcomed the scheme as a boost for the town.

It comes as preparations get under way for work to start on a £6m manufacturing and engineering complex – called Dudley Advance – on a site off Priory Road.

It will give students specialised manufacturing skills, and it is hoped it will help to support the local and national engineering, technology and manufacturing sector.

The new maths complex, which will



An artist's impression of the two-storey specialist maths block planned

be built on a site between Dudley Sixth and Dudley Advance will replace outdated facilities at the college's Broadway site.

A statement submitted by bosses with the planning application says: "Dudley Enhance will be an exciting and complementary development to the Dudley Learning Quarter."

"The new building will complete the

group of buildings facing Priory Road and form a backdrop to the new landscaped plaza formed by the three buildings, offering a comprehensive gateway development to the town and its civic quarter."

College principal Lowell Williams said: "We're delighted that planning has been approved for Dudley Enhance."

£1m dementia care boost

NEARLY £1m has been secured to improve dementia care for patients in the Black Country.

The cash, totalling £903,700, will be used to carry out upgrades to 12 wards across Sandwell General Hospital, City Hospital, Rowley Regis Hospital and Leasowes Intermediate Care Unit.

The money has been secured by bosses at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

Rachel Overfield, chief nurse, at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hos-

pitals NHS Trust, which runs all four centres, said: "The trust is committed to refining the way we care for people with dementia to make their stay in our hospitals and community facilities as stress free as possible."

Unfamiliar

"The planned upgrades will focus on reducing the disorientation and frustration patients with dementia often experience when they are brought into an unfamiliar environment, such as a hospital ward."

The Trust secured the money from the Department of Health in a recent

bid for a share of a £50 million fund to create services specifically designed for the needs of people with dementia.

Part of the cash was spent making individual bays on wards distinctive and easily recognisable to the patient.

In bathrooms, white fixtures and fittings, such as hand rails and toilet seats, will be swapped for coloured ones to help with depth perception and blue flooring will be replaced with green to reassure patients they are on solid ground.

Nursing stations will also be revamped to enable nurses to care more effectively for patients.

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Hannah is the IT girl at just 7



Logging on for a bright future in computers, Hannah Millington-Day, aged seven, at Wombourne's leisure centre, who has passed a GCSE equivalent course in IT

SHE may only be seven-years-old but computer whizz kid Hannah Millington-Day is already ahead of her time.

The youngster, from South Staffordshire, has just received a certificate for passing a GCSE equivalent course in IT, which she started when she was five and finished when she was six.

Her proud parents today said she first started using a computer at the age of three. They added that the OCR IT level one qualification she has achieved was usually taken by people almost 10 years older than her.

Her mother Donna Millington-Day, who runs her own cake shop in Wombourne, said:

"From a young age we knew she was gifted. In terms of computers, she's really advanced, but also in maths, English and reading she's also far ahead."

"But even though she's very talented she's a happy little seven-year-old and loves normal girly things like dancing, singing and music."

Hannah attends All Saints Primary School in Trysull and lives in Stourbridge Road, Wombourne with her parents Donna and Myles, as well as two-year-old brother Ted.

"She quite often gets him on the computer and shows him how to use it, like a teacher," said Mrs Millington-Day.

Quarry lorries targeted by new parking ban and weight limits

PARKING restrictions will be introduced on a road outside a quarry in Dudley following complaints from residents about lorries clogging the streets.

Dudley Council will install 'no waiting' signs along Dudley Road, Kingswinford, in a bid to stop lorry drivers parking up ahead of Kettleby Quarry opening at 7.30am.

A 7.5-ton weight restriction will also be introduced at nearby Ploverdale Crescent to prevent

them from driving around the estate to 'kill time' before they are allowed to enter the site.

Neighbours and ward councillors have long called for action to be taken, saying the vehicles cause long tailbacks and block the pavements.

It comes after councillors agreed to enforce a cut-off point for when heavy vehicles had to stop arriving and leaving the site as part of a 15-year review of operations at the site.

They stopped access to the site for vehicles between 6pm and 7.30am each day.

Ward councillor Patrick Harley said the new parking restrictions

followed discussions between residents and councillors.

"This is all about striking a balance so that not only are we restricting the impact on residents but we are also allowing the business to continue to prosper."

"There have been complaints from people because the lorry drivers are queuing up along the road before the quarry opens which has made it difficult for residents to get out of the estate and buses haven't been able to get through."

Cabinet member for transport Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said the cost of introducing the parking restrictions would be around £6,000.



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Fri 30 August	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 31 August	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 2 - Thu 5 September	10.00am - 8.00pm
Fri 6 September	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 7 September	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 9 - Thu 12 September	12.00noon - 7.00pm
Fri 13 September	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 14 September	10.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 16 - Thu 19 September	12.00noon - 7.00pm
Fri 20 September	10.00am - 4.00pm
Sat 21 September	10.00am - 1.00pm

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE



Cooking for the camera - media and culinary arts students create visual delights

Academy first year has been amazing

HOW much can you achieve in a year? Quite a lot when you are part of the Academy at Kidderminster. Students have had the time of their lives during the 12 months that the Weavers Wharf-based skills and entrepreneurial academy has been open.

Many of them have gained full and part-time employment and been involved in a range of projects and activities.

Interest from businesses wishing to work with the Academy has also continued to grow.

"Our first year has been truly amazing," said Academy

Director, Jane Smith. "Thanks to the fantastic support we've had from the local community, we've been able to provide learners with education and training opportunities that have meant their careers are off to the best possible start."

Successful projects that Academy students from different subject areas have collaborated on include a charity dinner in aid of Help for Heroes, a fashion show in conjunction with New Look and a Saturday Kitchen MasterChef competition.

Students have also carried out work placements at Hester Blumenthal's Fat Duck restaurant and The Savoy as well as at New Look and Debenhams.

"Students have said they have really enjoyed working on projects, organising and helping out at events and studying with different people," Jane Smith continued. "Best of all, they have experienced all these things in a thriving environment with facilities they love."

"This means the Academy has achieved the aims we set out with. And in September, we can look forward to creating many more opportunities where learners will excel."

Sponsorship

School leavers and adults can study full and part time qualifications at the Academy ranging from book-keeping to interactive media to legal studies.

Courses in dental nursing, pharmaceutical science, electrical and electronic engineering and servicing are also available. For those that want to brush up on their literacy and numeracy skills, Functional English and Maths courses will help improve their career prospects.

Enterprise and Entrepreneurship student, Dan Edwards is one of many to have made the most of the learning opportunities available at the Academy.

"I've taken the basic principles of business and used them to do lots of different things like approaching companies for sponsorship of our events, selling and promoting," he said. "I've got more confidence and see myself going on to university after I've finished my course."

"The Academy atmosphere is totally relaxed while staying professional. You know you have to work hard, though you can enjoy yourself at the same time."

September enrolment begins on Monday (19). Parents and students aged between 14 and 16 can also find out more about Saturday Junior Academy programmes which run during term times.

For further information telephone 0845 155 0101, email kiddacad@bmetc.ac.uk or visit www.kidderminsteracademy.co.uk

ACHIEVE AT THE ACADEMY



Learners enjoy working with one another



Dan Edwards (far right) has developed a head for business

NEWS

Petal power brought to the fore with contest bid

A TOWN centre is blooming thanks to colourful planters and hanging baskets which have taken pride of place around its streets.

The bright floral displays have been put together by the Halesowen's Chamber of Commerce, managers at Cornbow Centre, local company Sandvik and council workers.

And they have pledged to add even more ahead of entering the town into the national In Bloom competition.

The partnership is part of the council's Love Your Community campaign which encourages people to take pride in where they live. Around a dozen planters and around 24 hanging baskets are now in place throughout the town centre in High Street, Queensway, Somers Square, Hagley Road and Great Cornbow.

Organisers will now be inviting ideas and contributions from gardeners, Friends of Parks, Allotment Associations and schools to help gear up the town for it to be entered into the national In Bloom competition in coming years.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet



Hilary Bills and Amanda Hodgetts, David Vickers, Kim Olander of Sandvik, Khurshid Ahmed and Steve Fitzpatrick, chairman of chamber of trade member for transportation, said: "It is excellent to see community groups and organisations coming together." Organisers are still looking for more sponsors to help increase floral displays or support and can be called on 07974 443162.

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE



Built environment courses take you higher with the University of Wolverhampton



Construction students sweep the board in Carillion's Apprentice Skillbuild contest

Constructing best careers at college

IF YOU'VE got grand designs on building a career in architecture, civil engineering, town planning, quantity surveying or building controls then Birmingham Metropolitan College, which recently merged with Stourbridge College, can open the door to enable you to create landscapes of the future.

Our built environment and construction part time courses at the Advanced Technology Campus based at the Waterfront Business Park in Brierley Hill are designed to help adults get a foot in the door to qualify for professions and careers that are the backbone of the construction industry.

There are also a variety of construction & built environment higher education courses available for adults who are looking to progress in their career.

Kevin Stevens, faculty director at the Centre of Excellence for Construction & Building Services, said: "All around us are examples of what has been achieved through built environment careers and professions."

"Everything from the buildings that have been designed through to the way towns and cities are planned and created."

"We provide all levels of construction courses including brickwork, carpentry and joinery, plastering, plumbing and painting and decorating as well as some very good electrical installation and gas service and maintenance courses, but the built environment is key to providing our



Piping up – plumbing apprentice Ant Parkes, celebrates his competition win alongside plumbing lecturer at the college, Simon McPhee

environmental infrastructure. "Career progression is very good in this field and our qualifications are designed to ensure that students can progress through to university and to the top of their chosen profession

where salary rates are excellent." The built environment courses available are the National Certificate/Diploma in Construction for progression onto the Higher National Certificate/Diploma in Construction,

Civil Engineering and Building Services Engineering offered in partnership with the University of Wolverhampton.

Anyone interested in built environment courses need a minimum of four Cs including maths, English and science.

BE A BUILDER

MEANWHILE, if you're looking for something concrete in your life or want to lay down firm foundations for a career in construction then an apprenticeship or a course in the construction trades may be the stepping stone you're looking for.

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Our facilities at the Centre of Excellence for Construction & Building Services located in the heart of Brierley Hill offer a range of specialist craft workshops for construction trade courses and well-equipped classrooms and equipment for built environment studies.

Anyone wanting to enrol on part time Construction, the Built Environment & AAT (Accounting) courses should come along to the early enrolment session at the Advanced Technology Campus, Waterfront Business Park, Brierley Hill, DY5 1LX on Tuesday August 20, between 2pm and 8pm.

Contact 01384 399775 for more information.



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For more information call: 01384 399775

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If your employer is paying your fees please provide a letter of authorisation when enrolling. Concessions and payment by instalment are available depending on your circumstances.

For all other courses enrol at Stourbridge Campus Hagley Road between 2nd - 21st September 2013

stourbridge.ac.uk



Man jailed after carrying out vicious attack on ex-girlfriend

A MAN who cowardly attacked his ex-partner in front of her daughter has been jailed for 16 months.

Arthur Duffy, aged 31, of Occupation Street, Netherton, kicked his ex-partner Nicola Ferry in the chest causing her lung to collapse.

The attack happened in front of Miss Ferry's nine-year-old daughter in the

couple's living room and caused damage to her ribs.

Trouble started after the couple came home from a night out drinking.

When Duffy asked Miss Ferry for a hug, she declined and an argument followed, resulting in Duffy becoming violent and dragging her into the living room by her hair.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said: "Mr Duffy kicked Miss Ferry hard in her left side as well as in her face and the side

of her mouth, which caused her to start bleeding.

"This happened in front of her nine-year-old daughter who started crying.

Collapsed

"Miss Ferry put her to bed but when she returned the argument continued and Mr Duffy said he would 'knife her and put her in the cellar'."

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard

Miss Ferry suffered a collapsed lung, which had to be inflated and she spent one night in hospital.

Mr Bernard Porter, defending, said: "Alcohol is the catalyst which caused Mr Duffy to behave in."

Duffy was handed a 16-month custodial sentence, as well as a restraining order and he was also told to pay a victim surcharge of £100 by Recorder Mr Nigel Daly who told him: "People can be killed by being kicked in the face the way you did to Miss Ferry."

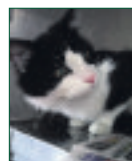
Bandit the cat looks to find new owners

Bandit, the year-old moggy, is hoping to hijack himself a new home - but he can't be with children or other pets.

The black and white cat has been stranded at vet's practice Stewart and Partners, based in Dudley and Tipton, since February and staff are desperately appealing for someone to take him in. They say he has become a 'very loving and friendly cat', despite at first being very timid.

"He was brought to the Dudley surgery as his owners couldn't cope with him," said veterinary nurse Kerry Haywood. "He is a very timid cat and at first when he was with us he was quite aggressive. However over the months he's been with us he's changed so much and has become a very loving and friendly cat."

Anyone who can give Bandit a home should contact Stewart and Partners on 01384 252817 or 0121 522 2118.



Bandit the cat

Steve floors it to help Scouts out



Steve Allmark who has completed a 150-mile charity walk

A MAN who has attended the same Scout group for 21 years has walked more than 150 miles to buy it some new flooring.

Steve Allmark, aged 27, joined the 1st Quarry Bank Scouts as a beaver aged just six, and is still there today as an assistant cub scout leader and group secretary.

After raising cash for the group last year by abseiling down the side of Dudley Castle, this year Steve, from Foxdale Drive in Brierley Hill, wanted to take on a tougher challenge.

And on July 1 he started walking the two-and-a-half miles to and from work at Eon on High Street in Kingswinford, where he works in the office, every day for a month.

He has now raised £1,241 pledged in donations, which will go towards buying new vinyl flooring for the group.

Pub owners' delight at second award win

A pub has scooped its second award of the year after impressing judges with its welcoming atmosphere and competitive beer prices.

The Red Cow in Lower Gornal has now been named West Midlands County Pub of the Year 2013 by the Campaign for Real Ale.

It is run by David and Linda Corns who were also awarded the Dudley and South Staffordshire branch's pub of the year prize in March.

The couple, who took over the reins three years ago, are back behind the bar for their second stint managing the business in Grosvenor Road following a six-year spell from 2001 to 2007.

Mr Corns, aged 60, said they were delighted with the pub's recent success.

"To win the first pub was absolutely unbelievable so we are over the moon to win a second."

Sainsbury's £2k donation

Colleagues from Sainsbury's stores across the Black Country visited Birmingham Children's Hospital to present a cheque for £2,702 to the Big Bandage Appeal.

Staff from stores including Wombourne, Blackheath, Amblecote and Merryhill wore bandages to raise the money and held raffles.

Sainsbury's spokesman Natalie Jacobs said: "The work of the hospital has impacted the lives of so many people in our local area, including colleagues and customers who we would like to thank for their generous donations to the campaign."

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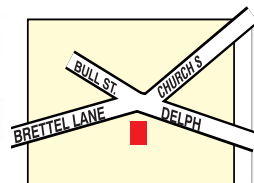
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NEWS**Veteran Ernie gets his Arctic Star at last**

Ernie Stokes, from Amblecote, receives his Arctic Star medal from Mayor of Dudley Alan Finch, with his wife Jean

A VETERAN from the Black Country has received recognition for his bravery serving on the dangerous Arctic Convoys during the Second World War.

Former Royal Navy able seaman Ernie Stokes has been awarded the Arctic Star – a medal honouring his efforts on the convoys that escorted supply ships to the Soviet Union.

Mr Stokes, of Nuthatch Drive, Amblecote, said he was very proud to have received the honour, but saddened it had taken so long for him and others to get the recognition.

"It has been rather a long time coming but I am absolutely delighted to have got the medal," he said. "Something could have been presented at the end of the Cold War but successive governments seemed to put it on the back-burner. I am pleased this recognition is finally available for all of the men who served on the convoys."

War-time leader Sir Winston Churchill famously called the Arctic Convoys the 'worst journey in the world'.

Crews had to serve in dangerous and freezing conditions under constant threat of attack from German forces looking to prevent supplies from reaching Russia. Mr Stokes, now aged 88, said he had signed up when he was 18 years old and had started serving on

the convoys in early 1944. "I suppose it was frightening when you look back on it," he said.

"However at the time you just get on with it. Obviously you had to travel at slow speeds to protect the convoy and that left you susceptible to attack."

Mr Stokes said he had left the navy in 1946 and later worked in the building trade. After that, he worked in social services fitting aids for disabled people. It is believed that between 200 and 400 sailors – all now in their late 80s at their youngest – survive from the four-year campaign.

The decision to award the medal was made by Prime Minister David Cameron after a long-running campaign by survivors, and a review of medals carried out by Whitehall.

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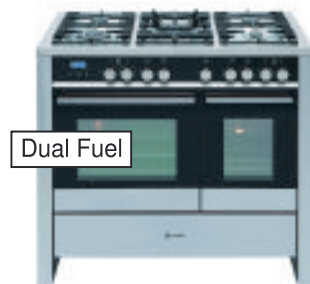


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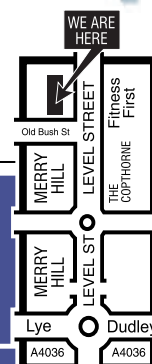


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NEWS FEATURE

We survived on drink and fags, we loved it

by Andy Richardson

IT'S HARD to imagine that 30 years have whistled past since glam rocker Tyla J Pallas started his career.

Back in 1983, His intentions were clear: he wanted to get out of Kingswinford and reach LA, New York or Sydney.

And, remarkably, he did. The lead singer with The Dogs D'Amour, who has also worked with members of The Quireboys, has been a regular feature of the glam scene.

He's back in time for an autumn tour, when he'll bring his Devils Supper show to his former stomping ground, Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms, on September 14.

"I'm really looking forward to the gig," he says. "I'll be playing a set with Spike, from Quireboys, with tunes from *Flammarion* Yours, as well as a few Dogs classics."

Tyla has amassed a remarkable back catalogue of some 300 or more songs.

Career

"Some things need a little working at but others come out in seconds," he adds. "I've tried all of the 'let's-all-get-together-at-10am-and-jam-until-we've-got-a-song-stuff' but it just doesn't work. It just has to come, it can't be forced."

Though Tyla now lives in London, he enjoys returning to the Black Country to play at his former haunts. Wolverhampton was important to his career and he retains a strong affection for the city's rock fans.

"The Dogs started after I'd been kicked out of my own band, which started in Kingswinford."

"Back in those days, the only objective was to get the band together and learn the songs."



Back on familiar turf - Dudley-born and bred rocker Tyla J Pallas, who is heading to Wolverhampton for a gig next month with his new band

"We didn't get paid, ever. We'd just turn up and work really hard on the gigs. People would put us on at 7pm on a Monday night, when there was nobody there. But we didn't care. We just wanted to play."

"We kept working and working until we moved on to play for bigger audiences. We always used to play at Edwards Number 8, in Birmingham, and then we'd move up to the Hummingbird."

"Then we'd be off to Manchester or London and suddenly we'd find ourselves playing in front of 3,000 fans in London."

"Then we'd be off to America - we'd come down to earth with a bump and play to 30 people in a room."

Tyla doesn't look back at that era through rose-tinted shades.

"It was very stressful. I look back and it was one of those situations where it was nightmare at the time. The van would break down in Holland, we never had any money or any food. We'd survive on drink and fags. But we'd never done it before so we loved it."

Stardom

It's been 20 years since Tyla had a record deal, but he enjoys his independent existence.

"I've got my own label and I just go out there and do what I do. The big 'stardom thing' doesn't come and scoop you up. You have to work at it."

"Sometimes I look back and wonder where all the years went, but I'm just glad that I make my living being on the road."

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CLUB NEWS

Talk that has sting in the tale

CODSALL WOOD WI

AT THE July meeting Barbara Hodson welcomed a new member and the business was dealt with.

An outing to Wollerton Gardens on July 17 was enjoyed by all who attended with a super tea following. Barbara introduced Barbara and Mike Egerton, who talked to about bees. Barbara had been keeping bees for 30 years, and explained she knew nothing about them when she first started.

She has had many stings over the years. The bee-keeping season is very short.

The bee working life is only six weeks. They work trees and flowers, mainly hawthorn, sycamore, lime, rape, clover and blackberry. Bees will forage over a two-mile area, you can tell where they have been working by the colour of their legs. They love dandelions, lavender, hazel, crocus, heathers, and horse chestnut.

The queen bee works very hard, never leaving the hive, she can lay 2,000 eggs a day. A bee colony is worth about £200, so where they are sited is very important.

Bee-keeping is just a hobby to Barbara but she makes honey and also jam using honey, which she sells to help the poor in Romania.

An enjoyable talk was followed by tasting of the honey and jam and members were able to purchase the produce. The competition was for a recipe using honey, won by Margaret Aspey.

Ladies honoured by visit from Blind Dave



The ladies from Sedgley Townswomen recently enjoyed a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon

THE guild was very lucky with their recent outing as the weather was hot and sunny when they spent the day at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Some members enjoyed a trip on the river and others were just happy walking around in the sunshine.

At our last meeting, the ladies were honoured with a visit from 'Blind Dave' Healey as he was the speaker that evening, when two members of the Federation were also welcomed. The August outing this year is to

SEDGLEY TWG

Liverpool and guild meetings will recommence on September 16 when new members and visitors are also welcome. The speaker is Gillian Hales on native owls.

There is also an arts and craft section on Wednesdays from 2-4pm.

Meetings are held at Sedgley and District Community Centre on the third Monday in the month at 7pm.

Good turnout at meeting

CLENT GARDENING CLUB

THE club's annual outing to Hampton Court Gardens in Herefordshire, stopping en route at the beautiful market town of Ledbury.

It was one of the best days of the year and the first stop was a tour of the house led by a well-informed guide.

Members were then left to their own devices. On July

28, the club was back at its usual monthly meeting in Clent parish hall listening to Dr John Page giving a talk on The Joys of English

Gardens. The turnout was excellent with 65 or more, including 10 new members.

At the next meeting on August 23 Sue Russell will talk about Perfume in the Garden. On September 7 it is the 67th annual flower show in the parish hall. Entries must be in by 11am on the day.

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Saddling up for riding challenge in aid of charity to help abuse victims

A TEAM of intrepid cyclists from a hospital trust are setting off through the Black Country on a 143 mile bike ride.

A group of around 40 staff from Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust will be taking part in the Trust's 2013 annual cycle ride on September 5.

Starting at Sandwell Hospital, the team will be pedalling the punishing Sustrans Route 81, skirting round the Dudley borough border, going on to in

Wolverhampton and Telford, passing over the Welsh border, through the Cambrian mountains and alongside the Elan Valley reservoirs, before finally hitting the coast at Aberystwyth.

The ride is being carried out to raise funds for Sandwell Women's Aid, a local charity that offers refuge, support and counselling to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

One of the fundraisers, Dr Matthew Lewis, gastroenterology consultant at the Trust, said: "Staff at the Trust have been doing the charity bike rides for 12

years now. I'm sure the mountains in Wales will be a challenge, but we're all looking forward to it and hope to raise as much money as possible for the charity."

Fellow pedaller Warren Chapman, who is a nurse consultant at City Hospital's endoscopy unit, added: "My cousin works at Sandwell Women's Aid, so I know firsthand what great work they do in the community."

To support the cyclists, you can donate at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/swbcharitybike2013> or contact Warren on 0121



Nurse Warren Chapman and Dr Matthew Lewis

UKIP candidate for by-election revealed

UKIP has announced its candidate for the Coseley East ward by-election on September 19.

The political party is putting forward Mrs Star Etheridge as its representative.

A UKIP spokesman said: "Mrs Etheridge is a very strong candidate and we are united as a branch in having supported her as the best candidate for the position."

Star is a nationally known political voice as the UKIP disabilities spokesman. UKIP is determined to bring real, strong representation to the people of Coseley.

Star said: "We are determined to fight hard in this ward and win for the people of Coseley. Successive Conservative and Labour administrations in Dudley have let the people of Coseley down. It's time for UKIP. We will not let the people of Coseley down!"



Star Etheridge

Alpaca is shorn how to be cool



One of the shorn alpacas keeping cool at Dudley Zoo
ALPACAS Barley and Crunchy may have been fleeced – but they are now getting used to their new cooler look.

The pair, at Dudley Zoo, have been through the annual ritual of being shorn of their thick woolly fleeces.

But, following the recent heatwave, no doubt they will be glad to be free of their longer locks.

They are now getting used to their gangly new appearance after curators and the zoo vet sheared off the thick fleeces of 12 year-old Crunchy and 13 year-old Barley.

The pair are favourites in the farm at the zoo.

Zoo curator Matt Lewis said: "It was quite a team effort to shear both alpacas and took just over an hour to carry out."

"We took the decision to slightly sedate them so they didn't get too distressed and it also gave us the opportunity to give them a full health check."

Side steps towards free drama courses

The award-winning Stourbridge-based theatre company Side by Side is launching free taster courses to give more learning disabled actors a chance to explore their artistic talents.

The group, led by Susan Wallin, who recently collected an MBE from the Queen at Buckingham Palace, is already running sessions to attract new talent and will start a new course at St John's Church, Stourbridge, on September 12, from 10am to 3pm.

There are still two weeks left of the summer holiday course and anyone interested in attending one of the remaining sessions should contact emmalizfrancis@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 07890 340614.

The new sessions will run each week during term times and end in June.

More information is available by visiting www.sidebysidecompanystourbridge.co.uk

There's the rub, at reserve

Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve in Dudley is continuing its programme of summer events with a fossil rubbing session and fossil hunt on August 21.

On August 24 a craft session will take place from 10.30am to 12.30pm and on August 28, there will be more den building, wildlife spotting and crafts.

On Wednesday August 28 there is another wild in the woods activity with den building, wildlife spotting, woodland crafts from 10am to noon.

Call 01384 812785 for more information or to book places.

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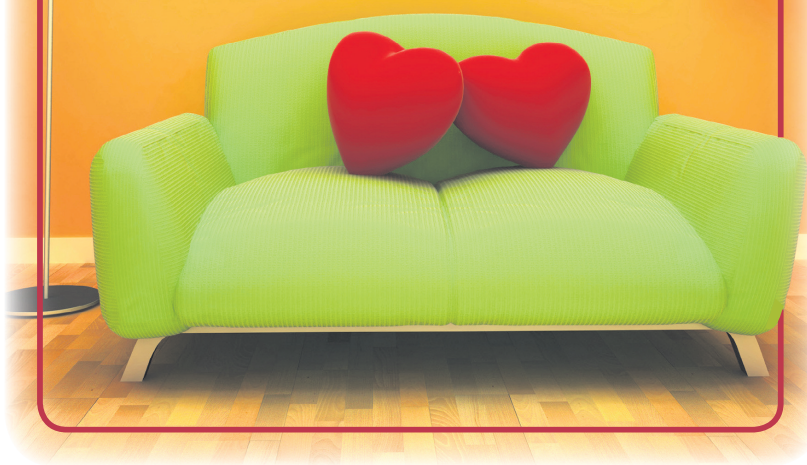
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(T&C's below)

ANITA petite 33yr old tanned, toned sexy size 10 female with very high drive and lots of energy looking for similar man for adult no stings fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406835**

Hi I am Linda a lonely petite mature lady looking for nice caring male up to 65yrs who also has lots of love to give for hopeful relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406715**

PAULINE, passionate, intelligent, discreet married lady seeks discreet special man of any age, call for more info. Tel No: **0905 002 1956 Box 339087**

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wining/dining, sightseeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great Summer with. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765**

LINDA bored housewife wanting to spice things up a bit looking for clean well-mannered professional for discreet adult meets. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406705**

SUE slim feminine brunette, caring, fun loving, independent, no ties, OHAC, loves cooking, WLTm willing male to get to know and spend quality times. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406693**

NICKY lonely single mum with GSOH, honest and very loving seeking trustworthy, cuddly, tactile male who can make all my dreams come true. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406523**

SARA 32 very attractive single mum, OHAC, professional looking for similar outgoing single dad 35-55yrs for companionship, hopefully more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406511**

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135**

SINGLE cuddly female, 5ft 6ins, green eyes, seeks male, 40-50 for fun and more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406015**

BEAUTIFUL olive skinned sensual lady, adventurous, with some naughty ways, discreet and seeks same. Age/looks/nationality unimportant but must be adventurous. Tel No: **0905 002 1957 Box 345725**

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTm younger gentleman with similar interests. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 404177**

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405243**

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319**

NAT easygoing pretty, honest 24yrs, enjoys cosy nights in, romantic walks, holidaying, keeping fit, WLTm fun, loving, energetic male, looks/age unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406117**

SUSAN 34 attractive looking to find that special connection with a nice guy who would enjoy spending good times with me and share new interests. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406109**

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818**

SINGLE female, 43, seeks kind, considerate male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406449**



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PAULINE 36 intelligent easygoing female with GSOH looking for nice guy who wants to get to know and connect with me, enjoys meals in/out, music and more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406373**

DONNA 42yrs young separated female who is ready to start dating again, bubbly, attractive, blonde and raring to get going, come on don't keep me waiting! Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406341**

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 393733**

28YR old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 380918**

JANET looking for handsome prince to spoil me in return for lots of good fun and well deserved uncomplicated attention. Discretion assured. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405823**

NEW to dating and a little nervous. Susan very attractive 30yr old curvy single mum, looking for fun times with similar outgoing male. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405809**

SARAH 24, brunette, brown eyes, attractive, slim, smart, seeks male with GSOH, 30's in Kidderminster area for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406139**

YOUNG looking, pretty female, 40, brunette, slim, no ties, N/S, seeks attractive, refined male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 313115**

JANICE 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407**

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CARLA 41, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 2ins, loving, seeking male who likes walks, cinema and romantic meals. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 396127**

ATTRACTIVE lady, GSOH, slim, dark hair, 50's, likes walks, films, art, meals out, seeks male with GSOH and similar interests for friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 399245**

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325**

KIND romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 386429**

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good, WLTm appreciative guy Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 404819**

YVONNE looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135**

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169**

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106**

SINGLE MEN

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 60109. (T&C's below).

MALE 47, honest, caring, loving, OHAC, seeks female for LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406891**

KEVIN 40, stocky, 6ft 2ins, dark hair, likes nights in/out, seeks female, 35-50 for fun and relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406773**

MARK 45 6ft, blue eyes, dark hair, slim, likes sports, cinema, meals out, seeking loving, caring female to share life with. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406737**

COLIN 5ft 8ins, dark hair, brown eyes, likes pubs, walks, dvds, holidays, seeks nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406677**

MATT nice build, likes cycling, clubs, looking for fit, sexy female for fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406727**

PROFESSIONAL local businessman, 40 tall, blue eyes, likes sports, music, seeks professional slim lady for romantic meals, evenings out. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406717**

ARE you a black princess? 48yr old sporty white male, 5ft 11ins, likes holidays, cinema, meals out, would like to take you out. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406551**

MALE seeking female, 40-55, discretion assured, status unimportant for daytime meals. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406433**

SHARP dressed man, mature, fun, seeks smart, size 10 lady, any age for friendship and relationship. Hereford. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405323**

58YR old male, likes nights in/out, looking for N/S female, 40-60 for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405975**

JOSEPH 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 26-48 for fun and relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

38YR old farm worker, medium build, seeks female of similar age for nights in and out. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406331**

ATTRACTIVE tall, professional male, GSOH, easy going, likes sport, socialising, seeks female for fun and live life. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406317**

CHRIS 45, genuine, honest, caring, N/S, likes cinema, theatre, socialising, seeks genuine, N/S female, 39-45, single mum welcome for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406295**

46YR old stocky male, no ties, shaved head, likes walks, meals out, motor bikes, seeking female for relationship, are you the one? Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406291**

SLIM attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTm lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259**

BROADMINDED 67yr old black male, GSOH, caring, loving, seeks lady, 62-69 for friendship and adult fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406257**

MAURICE 50's, seeking N/S female for nights out, friendship and maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 400425**

GAY SINGLES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to other men, look no further. TXT: **GAY247** to 60109
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BI male, divorced, young 50, fit, own business, generous, seeks bi male, any nationality, 18-40 for good times. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 406905**

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 311892**

FRIENDS

STRAIGHT lady, young 60, smart appearance, friendly, outgoing, seeking similar female friends single/married for genuine friendship/evenings out. Sutton Coldfield and surrounding areas. Tel No: **0906 500 3955 Box No: 405475**

TRAVEL

Carry on glamping at historic castle site

IN tough economic times, the 'staycation' has been the holiday of choice for most families.

The current heatwave has given most the ideal excuse not to swap these shores for some summer sun elsewhere. And while camping remains a popular way of enjoying a family break, many these days choose to glamp it up with all mod-cons.

So where better to get away from it all than on our own doorstep and in style too?

Warwick Castle, already an ideal a day out, is now capitalising on the stay-at-home holiday craze by launching its own mediaeval glamping experience.

Jester

Families can choose from one of 35 luxury tents, suitable for groups of up to six, and with a two-day family pass for the castle, worth £73, included in the price, as well as two-days' parking.

But that is not the only attraction. A continental or cooked breakfast and an evening barbecue is also served up. There is mediaeval entertainment thrown in too in the form of jester school, knight school and have-a-go archery lessons.

Number one boy showed everyone the way at the Jester school, pedalling off on a bike that probably only reached my ankles, while I doubt even now that anyone trying archery has got any closer to the bullseye than boy number two.

My family and I found the ideal opportunity to take advantage – on the day that school broke up – and with the sun beating down.

At the glampsite, areas are named after historic connections with the



Historic Warwick Castle, which is cashing in on the glamping craze



The glampsite at Warwick castle with one of the 35 luxury bell tents

castle, like Plantagenet or Neville.

The toilet block and shower facilities ensure the residents are not slumming it and there is even a pamper tent, which comprises hairdryers, mirrors and phone chargers.

The castle day out coincided with the start of its summer activities, with jousting the main event. There is so much to see and do, with learning opportunities from children at the Horrible Histories sections, and not forgetting the Merlin Tower and Dungeons. Tickets for these two attrac-

tions are not included in the glamping package.

The glamping season runs at Warwick Castle until September 1. Prices are £150 for a family of two to four for a midweek single night stay Monday to Thursday and £200 for up to six.

From Friday to Sunday, a single night stay is priced at £200 for up to four and £250 for a group of five or six.

Book online at www.warwick-castle.com or call 0871 663 1676.

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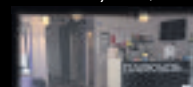
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*16% rise in advertising client numbers April-June 2013. Source: Midland News Association

What's On! Stourbridge

Folk fans at ready for glass cone site

STOURBRIDGE's iconic Red House glass cone will provide the backdrop for a folk festival next month.

The September 8 event, organised by Katie Fitzgerald's music pub in Wollaston, will feature the New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils. Other acts include Nizlopi, Rory McLeod, Nick Harper, Sunjay Brayne, the BBC2 folk awards nominee, and Kim Lowings.

Tickets for the folk festival cost £22.50 and are available by visiting www.stourbridgefolkfestival.co.uk or by calling Katie Fitzgeralds on 01384 374410, or 07860 783232.

Family activities at museum event

BLACK Country Living Museum throws open its doors after hours for an evening of family-friendly activities on Saturday.

Fire jugglers, mime artists, living statues, face painting and fairground rides will be on offer. There will also be a Charlie Chaplin impersonator and Fizzog Productions will put on a performance of Little Red Goldilocks. Entry is half the normal admission and can be booked via 0121 520 8054 or online at www.bclm.com

Paintings on show

THE Black Country Artists group's exhibition of more than 60 paintings, and craft work, in Halesowen ends on Saturday at Hurst Green Methodist Church, Narrow Lane. The free display runs from 10.30am to 5pm.

Win pairs of tickets to Black Country's own rock festival

SANDWELL Valley is set to rock over the August Bank Holiday weekend as fund raising music festival Judgestock returns, bigger and better than ever.

The Chronicle has teamed up with Sandwell Council to offer readers a chance to win one of 10 pairs of three-day weekend adult tickets for Judgestock, worth more than £60 per pair.

This year's family-friendly event will see dozens of bands across three different stages as, for the first time, Judgestock will be part of the annual Sandwell Show. Headliners will include The Quireboys (Saturday), The Twang (Sunday) and Brit-award winners Blue on Sunday, kicking off their European tour in Sandwell.

Voice

Main support acts are Mitchel Emms from the BBC's The Voice, Alabama 3 and R&B sensation Lemar. There will be local bands including XLR8 and tributes to Thin Lizzy, Pink, Lady Gaga and Michael Jackson.

Judgestock is dedicated to the memory of Simon Turton, a local man who lost his battle with cancer in 2011. Simon was an old school friend of festival organiser, Lee Judge, and the money raised will be going to aid Macmillan Cancer Support and the Mayor of Sandwell's charities.

Tickets for the event cost £12 plus booking fee per day for adults, or £30 plus booking fee for the three days event, £6 per day plus booking fee or £15 plus booking fee for the three days for children (5-16) with under 5s free when accompanied by a paying adult. See the website www.judgestock.co.uk



Kerrang radio's Johnny Doom will compere Judgestock Music Festival stockmusicfestival.co.uk and tickets are available on www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

For your chance to win tell us who Judgestock dedicated to?

Send your answer on a postcard, with your name, address and telephone number, to Judgestock Competition, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES. Closing date August 23. Usual rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

Plant is back on road with a new group

HE'LL turn 65 on August 20 but Black Country rock icon Robert Plant is working harder than ever.

The star will headline Wolverhampton's Civic Hall on September 2 with his new band: Robert Plant Presents Sensational Space Shifters.

He has been on the road in recent times, telling audiences: "This is one of the most stimulating times in my life."

His shows have featured Led Zeppelin material, which has satisfied many fans eager for the thunder of the 1970s act that sold as many as 300 million records.

His gigs have featured Babe I'm Gonna Leave You, Rock and Roll, Black Dog, Whole Lotta Love and Who Do You Love?

Plant is playing a small number of UK dates on his present tour. His tour starts in Bristol with a date at the Colston Hall on August 29 before moving onto the Stradbally Estate for its Electric Picnic.

He stops off in Wolverhampton for his one-off gig at the Civic before returning on October 29 for a headline at Manchester's Apollo.



Robert Plant – the icon is 65 next week and still rocking

V exciting star line-up on the way

A STAR-STUDDED pop and rock line-up of more than 80 acts will be taking part in this weekend's V Festival at Weston Park, near Wolverhampton.

Topping the bill on Saturday night will be Americans Kings of Leon with support from Welsh rockers Stereophonics.

Other stages will offer more dance-orientated alternatives with Calvin Harris, Rita Ora and Basement Jaxx, or the jazz sound of Jamie Cullum.

Other acts during Saturday including, aptly, pop princesses The Saturdays, plus Emeli Sande, Rudimental, Tom Odell, McFly, Lawson, Ellie Goulding, Naughty Boy, Birmingham's Laura Mvula and rising star John Newman.

Or if comedy's your thing, the stand-ups on Saturday duty include Jon Richardson, Rob Rouse and Paul Chowdhury.

Beyonce

Megastar Beyonce tops the bill on Sunday with support from The Script, Jessie J, Paloma Faith, and Two Door Cinema Club. Whilst James and Deacon Blue will be warming up the crowds earlier on.

The other stages offer alternative headliners Steve Angello, Brum's Ocean Colour Scene and Benjamin Francis Leftwich. The day's comedy superstar is Eddie Izzard.

For latest information visit www.vfestival.com

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 17.08.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Alexander Armstrong

Pointless Celebrities

BBC1, 5.45pm
Alexander Armstrong and his Richard Osman return for another helping of teasers in which famous faces have to guess which is the least popular answer on the board. For example, if we said: 'Name two stars of Red Dwarf', chances are Craig Charles and Danny John-Jules would feature rather high. We could ask you to name a couple of stars of one of the Beeb's another enormous hits, Mrs Brown's Boys. Yes, you could say Brendan O'Carroll and Jennifer Gibney. As you probably guessed, Craig, Danny, Brendan and Jennifer are all taking part in this week's show.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. A round-up of the latest sports news. **1.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Athletics: World Championships. **5.25** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. **6.35** The Puppet Game Show. **7.15** I Love My Country. Sally Lindsay, Gemma Atkinson, Billy Boyd, Michael Ball, Greg Rutherford and Faye Tozer demonstrate their knowledge of all things British. Game show, hosted by Gabby Logan. **8.00** The National Lottery: Break the Safe. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three couples take part in several quiz sessions in a bid to be the last pair standing. Includes the National Lottery results with OJ Borg. **8.50** Casualty. Part two of two. Zoe returns to find the ED in chaos and Jamie barricaded inside her office with Ramin, and as the situation escalates, the nurse must put his training to the test. **9.40** Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow. With Al Murray, Micky Flanagan, Jo Caulefield and Jon Richardson. (R) **10.10** BBC News: Weather. **10.30** Match of the Day. Highlights of the opening matches of the Premier League season; National Lottery Update. **11.55** The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two. **1.10** Weatherview. **1.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **7.30** Film: My Life with Caroline. (1941) **8.50** Film: Underwater! (1955) **10.25** Reel History of Britain. (R) **10.55** The Private Life of Plants. (R) **11.45** University Challenge. (R) **12.15** Athletics: World Championships. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure. (R) **3.00** Wild China. (R) **4.00** Urban Jungle. **4.30** Final Score. Round-up of football results. **5.30** Coast. **6.00** Flog It! **7.00** Proms Extra 2013. Katie Derham presents a review of this week's concerts and there is an interview with Marin Alsop, who is set to become the first woman to conduct the Last Night of the Proms. **7.40** Dad's Army. Corporal Jones's fitness to serve is tested. (R) **8.10** Thatcher – The Downing Street Years. Documentary from 1993 examining the former Conservative prime minister's 11 years in office between 1979 and 1990, beginning as her new government tries to revive the UK's economy. (R) **9.10** Top of the Lake. Matt reveals a secret that leaves Robin in despair, but the detective summons up her last reserves of strength to try to find Tui before her father can. Last in the series. **10.10** QI XL. With Sue Perkins, Ross Noble and Professor Brian Cox. (R) **11.00** Film: Rabbit-Proof Fence. (2002) Fact-based Australian drama, starring Everlyn Sampi. **12.25** Film: 2 Days in Paris. (2007) **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV. Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.40** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. (R) **7.20** Kick Butowski – Suburban Daredevil. **7.35** The Avengers: Earth's Mightiest Heroes! **8.00** Gravity Falls. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Dinner Date. (R) **9.25** Saturday Cookbook. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Saturday Farm. **12.25** Countrywise. (R) **12.35** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) **1.45** Film: Smokey and the Bandit II. (1980) **3.35** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.30** Regional Programme: Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather. **6.00** You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a selection of camcorder calamities and viewers' mobile-phone footage, including out of control children, silly seniors and animals unable to get along. (R) **6.30** You've Been Framed! Unlikely insurance claims. (R) **7.00** Film: Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. (2007) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Daniel Radcliffe. **9.40** The Americans. The Jennings plot their next move carefully when they meet an American asset who plans to give them highly classified information, while Stan gains an unprecedented opportunity. **10.35** ITV News; Weather. **10.50** Film: State of Play. (2009) Political thriller, starring Russell Crowe. **1.00** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 British GT. **6.30** The Grid. **7.00** IPC Swimming World Championships 2013. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Undercover Boss Australia. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.10** V Festival 2013: Saturday Live. **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.15** Come Dine with Me. Chris Wood, the self-confessed "campest straight man in the world" hosts the fourth and final dinner party in Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire, and the winner is revealed. (R) **6.45** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Film: Mission: Impossible. (1996) A secret agent is accused of betraying his fellow spies, and sets out on a mission to clear his name. Action thriller based on the 1960s TV series, with Tom Cruise and Jon Voight. **9.00** Film: Knight and Day. (2010) A woman gets kidnapped and dragged into a rogue secret agent's mission to clear his name after he is framed as a traitor. Comedy adventure, starring Tom Cruise. **11.10** Stephen Merchant: Hello Ladies. The Office co-creator's critically acclaimed 2011 stand-up comedy show, based on his experiences of the rocky road to finding love. **12.10** V Festival 2013: Saturday Highlights. **1.35** Crazy about One Direction. (R) **2.35** Hollywoods. (R) **4.50** Countdown. (R) **5.30** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers: Megaforce. **10.35** Sluggterra. **11.00** Inside Hollywood. **11.05** Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) **12.30** Film: The Battle of the V1. (1958) **2.30** Film: Anzio. (1968) **4.50** Film: Columbo: Ashes to Ashes. (1998) **6.35** Film: Jesse Stone: Benefit of the Doubt. (2012) The troubled cop returns to his role as chief of police to bring the perpetrators of a Mob-related double homicide to justice. Detective thriller, with Tom Selleck. **8.05** NCIS. An ex-serviceman is beaten to death in his own back garden, and the agents are forced to consider the possibility his wife – a marine and martial arts expert – is the killer. (R) **9.00** NCIS. The team is forced to undergo psychological evaluations while investigating the death of a submarine's commanding officer. (R) **9.50** 5 News Weekend. **10.00** Big Brother. Another chance to see last night's eviction, in which one unlucky housemate missed out on a place in the final week in the house. **11.00** Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. AJ Odudu is joined by a panel of psychologists and celebrity fans to analyse the housemates' behaviour in the lead-up to Monday's final. **12.00** SuperCasino. **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2011: Not in 3D **7.15** Film: Shanghai Noon (2000) Comedy Western, starring Jackie Chan and Owen Wilson. **9.00** Film: Armageddon (1998) Sci-fi thriller, starring Bruce Willis. **11.20** Family Guy **BBC Four**
7.00 Precision: The Measure of All Things **8.00** Tiger – Spy in the Jungle **9.00** Sebastian Bergman 100 Quadrophonia – Can You See the Real Me? **11.40** The Who at the Electric Proms **ITV2**
3.00 Film: What a Girl Wants (2003) **5.05** Film: Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) **7.00** You've Been Framed! **9.00** Film: The Bourne Supremacy (2004) **11.15** Film: Red Dragon (2002) **ITV3**
2.45 Film: The Mirror Crack'd (1980) **4.50** Inspector Morse **7.00** Foyle's War **9.00** Lewis. The death of an Oxford don leads to the shady underworld of unlicensed boxing. **11.00** Wire in the Blood **ITV4**
3.05 Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) **4.50** Film: Where Eagles Dare (1969) **8.00** Black Gold **9.00** Film: Demolition Man (1993) **11.20** Film: Magnum Force (1973) **E4**
5.30 The Mindy Project **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Suburgatory **7.30** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** Happy Endings **9.00** Film: The Beach (2000) **11.20** PhoneShop **11.55** The Inbetweeners **Film4**
2.55 August Rush (2007) **5.05** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) **7.15** Airplane! (1980) **9.00** The Ugly Truth (2009) **10.50** Machete (2010)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 18.08.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Rebecca Ferguson

The White Queen BBC1, 9pm

The last episode of this series doesn't bring much joy for Queen of England Anne Neville. Her health is deteriorating and what with the death of son Prince Edward and then hearing of her husband's love for Princess Elizabeth, she resigns herself to her fate. However, Anne's determined to clear her conscience first, and even manages to bury the hatchet with Elizabeth, but just as an eclipse occurs, the Queen passes away. Anne's death means there's now a chance for Elizabeth's first-born daughter Princess Elizabeth to marry her uncle King Richard III.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **8.35** Match of the Day. (R) **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** BBC News. Weather. **12.10** Bargain Hunt. **12.40** Athletics: World Championships. **4.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Britain's Big Wildlife Revival. **6.35** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. In south Oxfordshire, Julia Bradbury explores the Wittenham Clumps and John Craven lends a hand on a farm that is providing work experience for people with learning difficulties.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. New series. Items on show at Polesden Lacey in Surrey include a glove thought to have belonged to Elizabeth I and a brooch kept hidden for years while its owner was in a POW camp.

9.00 The White Queen. The death of Anne provides hope that Princess Elizabeth and Richard III will marry, but battle looms with Henry Tudor waiting to invade and claim the throne. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents action from today's Premier League fixtures, which see Crystal Palace v Tottenham Hotspur at Selhurst Park and Chelsea v Hull City at Stamford Bridge.

11.25 That Puppet Game Show. (R)

12.05 Film: Nothing to Lose. (1997) **1.40** Weatherview. **1.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.45** Film: The Lost Moment. (1947) **8.00** Around the World in 80 Days. (R) **9.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well. (R) **12.00** Eastenders. **1.55** Coast. **2.25** Film: Krakatoa. East of Java. (1968) **4.30** What's Killing Our Bees? A Horizon Special. (R) **5.30** Flog It! **6.30** Live MotoGP: The Indianapolis Grand Prix (Start-time 7.00pm). Coverage from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, as the riders battle for points in the 10th round of the season.

8.00 Dragons' Den. An embarrassing malfunction affects a product designer's pitch, and a married couple hope a Brazilian dance troupe will encourage the Dragons to invest in a range of cooking sauces.

9.00 The Haiky Bikers: Restoration Road Trip. Si King and Dave Myers help rebuild an early traction engine before learning how it revolutionised farming, and restore a rare barge once used to transport coal on Britain's canals.

10.00 Blackadder the Third. Prince George hires two actors to improve his speech-making. (R)

10.30 Film: Frost/Nixon. (2008) British broadcaster and journalist David Frost sets up a series of interviews with disgraced former US President Richard Nixon. Drama, with Frank Langella.

12.25 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.20** Holly City. (R) **2.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.40** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. (R) **7.20** Kick Butowski - Suburban Daredevil. **7.35** The Avengers. Earth's Mightiest Heroes! **8.00** Sonny with a Chance. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Country House Sunday. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **12.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **2.30** A Touch of Frost. (R) **4.30** Film: The Queen. (2006)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather. **7.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Britt Ekland, Sherrie Hewson and Robin Cousins take part in the quiz show in which contestants answer questions to win turns on an arcade-style machine.

8.00 Martin Clunes - Heavy Horsepower. The actor explores the important role of working horses. (R)

9.00 Law & Order: UK. A gay man is found brutally murdered. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather. **10.15** Perspective: Warwick Davis - The Seven Dwarfs of Auschwitz. A Jewish family of travelling musicians who survived the concentration camp. (R)

11.15 Murder, She Wrote. International intrigue is on the cards for Jessica. (R) **12.10** The Store. **2.15** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.30** Motorsport UK. **4.15** ITV Nightcross. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Ironman 2013. **7.00** IPC Swimming World Championships 2013. **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Film: The Legend of Zorro. (2005) Swashbuckling adventure sequel, starring Antonio Banderas. **4.00** V Festival 2013: Sunday Live. **4.40** Film: Step Up 3. (2010) Premiere. Drama, starring Rick Malambri.

6.40 Channel 4 News. **7.00** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. Kirstie Allsopp sources and creates furniture for a Suffolk couple, and a Lancashire woman hopes to transform her cramped bathroom with a nautical theme. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 The Mill. Lucy and Esther set out to expose Mr Timperley, convinced he is responsible for Catherine's disappearance, while Robert breaks bad news at the factory. Last in the series.

9.00 Southcliffe. One year on, an anonymous letter reawakens David's fear that Morton is alive, so the reporter returns to Southcliffe - and suspects a new threat is imminent. Last in the series.

10.05 Film: Dear John. (2010) A soldier falls in love with a student, but their relationship is put to the test when he decides to return to duty. Romantic drama, starring Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried.

12.05 V Festival 2013 Highlights. **1.30** Film: Baaria. (2009) **4.10** A Film from My Parish. (R) **4.20** Three in a Bed. (R) **5.15** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Floortricks. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Tolly's Travelling Circus. **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jam. **10.00** The Mr Men Show. (R) **10.15** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.50** Sluggo. **11.10** Inside Hollywood. **11.15** Big Brother. (R) **12.15** BB BOTS: Rylan's Supersized Celebrity Sunday. **1.15** The Hotel Inspector Returns. (R) **2.20** Film: Tinker Bell and the Lost Treasure. (2009) **3.50** Film: Bewitched. (2005) **5.50** Film: Hitch. (2005)

8.00 Once Upon a Time. Regina uses magic to give Belle a set of false memories.

8.55 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Big Brother. The last daily round-up before the final, as the remaining housemates focus their eyes on the main prize, having survived almost 10 weeks at Big Brother's pleasure.

10.00 Film: Next. (2007) Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage. **11.55** Film: Above the Law. (1988) Thriller, with Steven Seagal. **1.45** SuperCasino. **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hanna's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Family Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hanna's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three **7.00** Robin Hood **7.45** Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You **8.15** Film: Shanghai Knights (2003) **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Boom Town **11.15** American Dad! **BBC Four** **7.00** A Poet's Guide to Britain **7.30** Proms on Four: 20th Century Classics **9.00** Review Show **10.00** The Fairytale Castles of King Ludwig II with Dan Cruickshank **11.00** Alan Whicker's Journey of a Lifetime **ITV2** **3.15** Film: The Mighty Ducks (1992) **5.25** Film: Johnny English (2003) **7.15** Film: The Scorpion King (2002) **9.00** Film: The Shawshank Redemption (1994) **11.50** Hell's Kitchen **ITV3** **3.40** Murder, She Wrote **4.35** Wycliffe **6.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Film: Dangerous Liaisons (1988) **11.35** A Touch of Frost **ITV4** **1.25** Film: The Manchurian Candidate (1962) **4.00** Film: Paths of Glory (1957) **5.45** Film: Aces High (1978) **8.00** Film: Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) **10.00** Film: National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon 1 (1993) **E4** **3.30** How I Met Your Mother **5.30** Mindy Project **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** New Girl **8.00** Film: View in Town (2009) **10.00** The Inbetweeners **10.30** Don't Trust the B**** in Apartment 23 **11.00** Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special **Film4** **2.55** Carry On Teacher (1959) **4.40** Love Happens (2009) **6.50** Mad Money (2008) **9.00** The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001)

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Charcoal chippings, also known as grey chippings. Durable gravel, consistent colour tone, ideal for driveways and pathways.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

Derbyshire White Chippings



Derbyshire white chippings, decorative chippings to make a noticeable touch to your garden's driveway.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

Cotswold Stone



Decorative aggregate suitable for a number of applications including flower beds and pathways.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

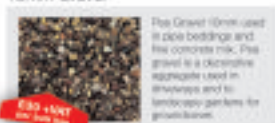
Sharp Sand



Also known as washed concrete sand and concrete sand. Used for various applications including under block paving, bedding and screeding floors.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

10mm Gravel



Pee Gravel 10mm used in pipe bedding and for concrete mix. This gravel is a decorative aggregate used in driveways and to landscape gardens for gravel areas.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

20mm Gravel



Pee Gravel 20mm used for landscaping, specialist concrete, specialist aggregate, decorative chippings.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

Wessex Gold



Wessex Gold is a decorative aggregate used for landscaping. Single sized.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

Basket



20mm or 40mm. Used when constructing foundations and for landscaping for building, paving and concrete paths.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

Building Sand



Dry screened building sand used for laying a smooth floor, landscaping and building purposes.

E50 +VAT per bulk bag

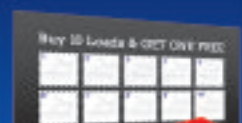
MOT Type 1



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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

The Perfect Assistant, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman becomes obsessively infatuated with her boss, but does not act on her desires. However, when his wife becomes seriously ill, she sees an opportunity to murder her, so the object of her affection will be available. Thriller, starring Josie Davis, Chris Potter and Sophie Gendron. (2008)

TUESDAY

While My Pretty One Sleeps, Channel 5, 3.10pm

A prominent gossip columnist is murdered before she can expose a scandal in the fashion industry. However, a tenacious boutique owner's curiosity is piqued by the case and she begins her own investigation – only to end up in danger from the Mafia. Murder mystery based on Mary Higgins Clark's novel, starring Connie Sellecca, Beau Starr and Frankie Pellegrino. (1997)



The Da Vinci Code, Wednesday, Channel 5, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

The Da Vinci Code, Channel 5, 9pm

A respected academic goes on the run when he is framed for the murder of a French historian. Pursued by the detective on the case and a sinister assassin monk, he strives to unmask the culprit, leading to a conspiracy determined to preserve a 2,000-year-old secret at any cost. Thriller based on Dan Brown's novel, starring Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou and Ian McKellen. (2006)

Smart People, BBC1, 11.35pm

Misanthropic professor Lawrence Wetherhold engages in a faltering romance with a former student, but his self-absorption threatens to wreck their relationship. He also has to contend with his freeloading brother, who is determined to get Lawrence's uptight, achievement-obsessed teenage daughter to lead a normal life. Comedy drama, starring Dennis Quaid. (2008)

THURSDAY

The Pledge, ITV, 10.35pm

A Nevada cop is on the verge of retiring when a desperate woman begs him to find whoever is responsible for her seven-year-old daughter's murder. Unable to turn her down, he begins an unofficial investigation, sure that the man his former colleagues suspect is innocent – but as he draws closer to the killer, he becomes increasingly obsessed. Drama, directed by Sean Penn and starring Jack Nicholson. (2000)

FRIDAY

Pitch Black, ITV, 10.35pm

A spaceship crashes on a desolate alien planet inhabited by nocturnal predators. The creatures' fear of light seems to guarantee the survivors' safety – but when an eclipse takes place, they face a desperate struggle to survive. Sci-fi horror, starring Vin Diesel. (2000)

Pick of the Week

Robin is left stunned by Matt's hidden secret

"Top of the Lake is a classic mythic struggle," says Jane Campion, the acclaimed writer and director who co-created the series.

Those who've watched the entire series, which ends this week, would no doubt agree with her; they'd also add that it's been completely riveting.

But has tuning in been an enjoyable experience? The word 'enjoy' is perhaps not appropriate in this case – "endured" is probably more fitting.

Not that the plot hasn't been gripping, moving and intriguing, but claiming to have enjoyed something involving such a gruelling experience as watching the fall-out from a pregnant 12-year-old's disappearance seems wrong. Nevertheless, we've continued to tune in, utterly transfixed by an incredible and powerful story with, unusually these days, a completely unguessable finale.

And as it all draws to a close this evening, with a bit of luck, we can soon all get back to having fun on a Saturday night instead of feeling emotionally drained.

The main focus of the drama has been Robin (Elisabeth Moss), a cop

specialising in child cases. She grew up in the area where the story has taken place, but it's her first return there since a traumatic event in her own youthful years.

However, always lurking in the background has been Matt Mitcham, the father of pregnant Tui. He's an odd character who also seems to have baffled Peter Mullan, the acclaimed Scottish actor who plays him.

"I can't tell you much about Matt because I'd never profess to know a character," says Mullan. "All you can do is kind of find their soul. The rest takes care of itself."

"He simply exists in his own world and he has his own rules and he has his own issues, shall we say, not least of which is a certain narcissism, a certain amount of self-loathing, a fairly complex relationship with his mother, a very complex relationship with his kids, and a certain sense of entitlement."

"He's good fun and he's a bit wicked in the sense that he'll do things some people would wish they could do. And he's rude and abrasive and massively,

massively insecure and full of all his own self-pity."

Mullan also describes Matt as "a bit alpha male," which is an understatement; Matt is in complete control of his family.

"His kids love him only because he's all that's there to love," explains the actor. "I've no interest in making someone sympathetic. What I am interested in is, even though one may not like someone they're as human as the next person."

Matt is certainly in the thick of things as the final episode begins.

Robin's obsession with finding Tui reaches boiling point as she realises the little girl's due date is drawing ever closer. She visits Matt, determined to once and for all get some useful information from him.

Matt has something to say, but his news leaves Robin in utter despair.

Nevertheless, she digs deep, soldiers on and heads off to find Tui before her father can get his hands on her – but she isn't prepared for shocking conclusion that's about to confront her...



Elisabeth Moss stars in Top of the Lake, Saturday, BBC2, 9.10pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

The Incredible Spice Men BBC2, 8.30pm

Variety, they say, is the spice of life. Except when it comes to cooking – then spice is the spice of life, and two chefs in particular know exactly how to eke the most out of it. In this new five-part series, Tony Singh and Cyrus Todiwala set out to demonstrate how good old British grub can be improved even further with clever use of herbs and spices. They start out in Hastings, East Sussex, where they show how ginger and lime can help to complement the subtle flavour of Dover sole.

Big Brother: The Final Channel 5, 9pm

In 1986, Nine-and-a-Half Weeks became one of the most talked about movies of the era. The same amount of time has been spent on the far less steamy run of Big Brother. Alan Partridge lookalike Dexter has been good value for money admittedly, and the twins, Jack and Joe have raised a few giggles. As for Hazel, Charlie, Gina, Sam and Sophie? They captured the imaginations of some, surviving eviction well into early August. Now there are just a few hours to go until Big Brother bows out for another series. Emma Willis will reveal who is the latest winner in a double bill wrapped around much hyped new import, Under the Dome.

TUESDAY

The Great British Bake Off BBC2, 8pm

Bakers up and down the nation have had their egos stroked by the trailers for series four of the

ratings winner already, as it proclaimed: "Cake, It's What Makes Us Great." The ensuing weeks, however, will be spent hammering them back down again, as we see just how high a bar Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood set for baking excellence. This week's opener focuses purely on cakes – and let's face it, if our amateur bakers can't master those, what business do they have in Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins' kitchen tent? First up, they have to make a traditional sandwich cake, before the technical challenge sees them take on an angel food cake, and a chocolate-based cake in the showstopper round.

Top Boy Channel 4, 9pm

It's two years since we last saw Dushane, the charming, sexy, clever but unlawful central character in Ronan Bennett's Baffa-nominated drama. Now he's back on our screens, and much has changed. He's now a high-flier, a real player in the world of his boss, Joe. But there's a storm brewing involving Dushane's former right-hand man Sully, who is now a potentially dangerous rival with a new partner in crime, the violent and volatile Mike. It looks as if their bubble is about to be burst when they're arrested for the murder of a mutual rival – but Dushane has an ace up his sleeve in the shape of beautiful solicitor Rhianna, who is so sharp, she gives him a run for his money as well as the police.



Top Boy, Tuesday, Channel 4, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

Who Do You Think You Are? BBC1, 9pm

It's been a few years since Gary Lineker was a star on the pitch, but thanks to his presenting duties on Match of the Day, not to mention those ubiquitous crisp adverts, he's rarely been out of the public eye since; on Saturday, August 17 alone he's in That Puppet Show, and a new run of MOTD. But this show is less about him and more about his family, including his great-great-grandfather James Pratt. He was a poacher in Victorian England who served time in Leicester Prison. Gary investigates why his ancestor became a repeat offender, and also researches his four-times great grandfather Thomas Billingham.

The Culture Show at Edinburgh: Funny Women BBC2, 10pm

It's a funny old business stand-up comedy, and not always funny ha ha. It's a sad fact that there just aren't that many great female stand-ups out there. However, the likes of Bridget Christie, Claudia O'Doherty and Dana Alexander are attempting to redress the

balance with their turns at the Edinburgh Festival. Sue Perkins will be spotlighting their talents, as well as chatting to Lucy Porter, Jo Caulfield, Andi Osho and Shappi Khorsandi. They all reveal how and why they got into comedy, along with one of British showbusiness's most reliable funny women, Jo Brand.

THURSDAY

Poaching Wars with Tom Hardy ITV, 9pm

We're a nation of animal lovers, us Brits, which makes us not too dissimilar, funnily enough, to Bafta Award-winning Tom Hardy. Sure, the actor has wowed us with performances in the likes of Bronson, Inception and The Dark Knight Rises, but for a one-off, he's not putting on an act – we're about to watch him exercising his love for animals, as he travels to South Africa, Botswana and Tanzania. Yep, this time he's got an altogether different agenda – to uncover the truth about why poaching elephants and rhinos has reached crisis levels and to see for himself what can be done to put an end to the killing.

FRIDAY

Emmerdale ITV, 7pm

Normally the plot thickens in soaps, but in Emmerdale one is being dug up – namely the glamping site. It marks the end of Declan's business dream, but that's just the tip of the dramatic iceberg. Declan is desperate for Jai to invest in his business, but he refuses, so Macey hopes Charity will help change Jai's mind.



The Laurel



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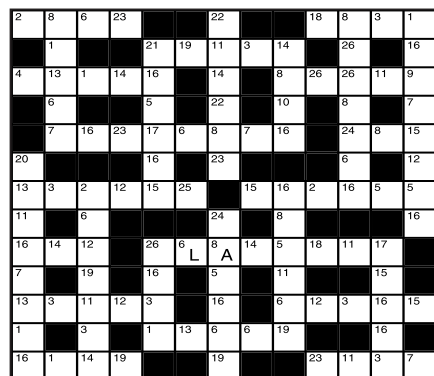
Puzzler

Brain Gym

No.234

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

K	T	E	L	P	A	G	I	R	D	Z	C	X
Q	H	J	F	N	M	Y	W	S	U	B	O	V

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

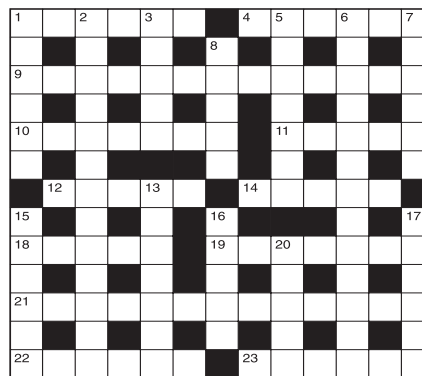
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- One girl that is after another (6)
- Sort of hat used by gardeners? (6)
- Distinctions that may be standardised, in a way (6,7)
- All the same, it suits servicemen (7)
- It's used in a theatre, or there about! (5)
- Resplendent part of a flag lowered at sunset (5)
- Ultimately refusing employment (5)
- Large group in which order is loosely observed (5)
- It may need a jack up before repairing (7)
- Dual purpose stores for lifeboats? (5-8)
- Such a game is not for amateurs! (6)
- Spoils a signal and gets into a row (6)

Down

- A sailor has to scowl about toil (6)
- Advantageously placed for a glamour photograph? (7,6)
- Northern block-house (5)
- They give point to work in the theatre (7)
- Surprised having forty winks (6,7)
- Run and see, perhaps, to make certain (6)
- It's quite rough and ready, as a rule (5)
- Go over the limit and speed too much? (7)
- Appear to expose a fraud? (4,2)
- Moving stair, perhaps (5)
- One would be mad to be out of them! (6)
- Excellent, but not fast, way to surpass others (5)



Quick Clues:

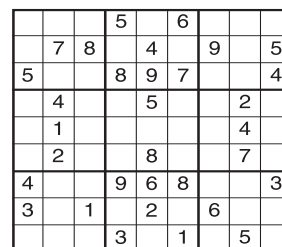
Across

- Comment (6)
- Builds (6)
- Weighing device (6,7)
- Lingers (7)
- Subject (5)
- Once more (5)
- Expert (5)
- Repair (5)
- Baggage (7)
- Frankness (5-8)
- Respect (6)
- Account book (6)

Down

- Outcome (6)
- Wedding celebration (8,5)
- Scope (5)
- Connected (7)
- Meditating (13)
- Searcher (6)
- Reville (5)
- Concentrated (7)
- Threefold (6)
- Incline (5)
- Mendicant (6)
- Degree (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	3	7	1	9	2	8	4	6
9	8	2	4	3	6	1	7	5
4	6	1	7	5	8	9	3	2
3	5	6	8	7	4	2	1	9
1	7	8	9	2	3	6	5	4
2	4	9	6	1	5	7	8	3
7	2	5	3	8	9	4	6	1
8	9	4	5	6	1	3	2	7
6	1	3	2	4	7	5	9	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Sound barrier; 7 Dates; 8 Stake; 9 Eon; 10 Out and out; 11 Hamlet; 12 Entomb; 15 Free trade; 17 Ill; 18 Elgar; 19 Revue; 21 Let well alone. Down: 1 Scene-shifter; 2 Dot; 3 Assets; 4 Resonance; 5 Erato; 6 Led to believe; 7 Denim; 10 Overthrow; 13 Olive; 14 Barrel; 16 Eagle; 20 Via. QUICK - Across: 1 Discomposure; 7 Lithic; 8 Erode; 9 Dry; 10 Prouette; 11 Afraid; 12 Sample; 15 Turpitude; 17 Era; 18 Guide; 19 Tritie; 21 Interruption. Down: 1 Disadvantage; 2 Out; 3 Poetry; 4 Speculate; 5 Roost; 6 Deceleration; 7 Layer; 10 Privilege; 13 Piece; 14 Muster; 16 Reign; 20 Imp.



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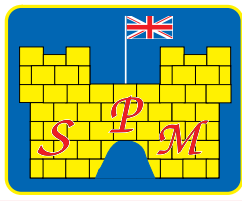
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KINGSWINFORD NEW LAMBERT COURT £695 pcm Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Single Garage, Unfurnished	RUSSELLS HALL NEW CORBYN ROAD £525 pcm Semi-Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Part Double Glazed, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished	SEDGLEY NEW NETHERBY ROAD £595 pcm Semi Detached, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished	OLDBURY NEW ASTLE DRIVE £525 pcm Modern Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, En Suite Shower Room, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking
AMBLECOTE NEW DENNIS STREET £650 pcm Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Unfurnished, Garage, Off Road Parking	PENSNETT NEW HIGH STREET £475 pcm End Terrace Property, Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden	KINGSWINFORD NEW COT LANE £795 pcm Detached Bungalow, Large Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking	KINGSWINFORD NEW RAGEES ROAD £395 pcm Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Electric Heating
KINGSWINFORD NEW QUEEN STREET £650 pcm Semi-Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, WC, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Garden, NO PETS/NO DSS	NETHERTON NEW PARK ROAD £335 pcm Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Electric heating, Off road parking, Double Glazing.	KINGSWINFORD NEW DUBARRY AVENUE £625 pcm Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Garage, Off road parking, Front & Rear Garden	KINGSWINFORD NEW RANGEWAYS ROAD £495 pcm First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished
BRIERLEY HILL NEW WALLOWES ROAD £540 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking	PENSNETT NEW TANSEY GREEN ROAD £530 pcm End Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Garage at rear, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing	PENSNETT NEW COMMONSIDE £550 pcm Mid Terrace House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Gardens, NO PETS	ROWLEY REGIS NEW EDEN GARDENS £550 pcm First Floor Flat, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Parking, Communal Garden
TIPTON NEW TIPPS STONE CLOSE £410 pcm First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished	LAKE SIDE NEW WOBURN DRIVE £495 pcm Ground Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking	COSELEY NEW ROSEVILLE PRECINCT £325 pcm Purpose built flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Off Road Parking	GREAT BRIDGE NEW EAGLE PLACE £370 pcm Modern Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking
PENSNETT BRYCE ROAD £495 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Gardens	DUDLEY LIMES ROAD £495 pcm Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished	QUARRY BANK NEW STREET £495 pcm Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens	QUARRY BANK CIDER AVENUE £675 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Utility, TV Room, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens

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Property



The kitchen includes built-in wine rack and granite worktops



The spacious lounge includes a brick-built feature fireplace

Exclusive stylish converted barns

PART of an exclusive development of high quality barn conversions in Himley, this property is on the market based on offers around **£425,000**.

Rookery Barn, Whitehall Barns, has four bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage and garden with views over fields.

The entrance hall has built in shoe and cloaks cupboards with the cloakroom having a white suite of WC and wash hand basin while the breakfast kitchen has a range of wall, drawer and base units, built in fridge/freezer, dishwasher and washing machine, work surfaces, inset stainless steel sink and mixer tap, space for range style cooker with extractor hood, central island with drawers, cupboards and work tops and doors to garden.

Cubicle

The lounge has feature brick fire surround with inset fire and doors to the rear garden.

On the first floor the master bedroom has an en suite with shower cubicle, wash hand basin and WC and there is a further bedroom with built in wardrobes, while the family bathroom has a white suite comprising panelled bath with shower and screen, WC and wash hand basin.



Offers of £425,000 are invited by Berriman Eaton for Rookery Barn in Himley

On the second floor are two more bedrooms, one en suite with shower cubicle, WC and wash hand basin.

Outside a communal driveway off the A449 leads to a large courtyard area with parking and access to a

garage, with lawned gardens to the front and rear; the latter having a paved patio, and there is also a patio to the side.

Call Berriman Eaton on 01902 747744 for details.

Conveniently located for all top amenities

A **TRADITIONAL** style detached house of character in a popular and established residential area between Tipton and Dudley and convenient for a wide range of amenities is for sale with no upward chain priced at **£195,000**.

The property benefits from recently fitted uPVC double glazing, gas central heating, detached brick built garage, off street parking and laid out rear garden.

On the ground floor is a cloakroom with WC and pedestal wash hand basin while the lounge measuring 15ft 4in by 11ft 3in has a brick fireplace with marble hearth and gas coal effect fire.

Provision

There is also a dining room, 13ft 3in by 11ft 2in, and an enlarged kitchen which is 14ft 10in by 7ft 7in and with a one and a half bowl stainless steel sink with mixer taps, base, drawer, larder and wall units, double oven, gas hob, extractor fan and provision for washing machine.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with white suite of panelled bath, pedestal wash hand basin and WC.

Outside is a walled front garden with lawn, rockery, shrub and flower borders and driveway with parking to the garage, with to the rear a paved patio, lawn, shrub borders, beds and rockery.

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Number 34 Woodcroft Avenue, which is now available at £195,000

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COT LANE KINGSWINFORD

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£1200PCM



WOODHOUSE ORCHARD BELBROUGHTON

A One bedroom ground floor Apartment situated in a much sought after residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance Porch, lounge, inner hall, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, double glazing, outside bin store, small foregarden and off road parking. PART FURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£650PCM



SCAFFELL ROAD AMBLECOTE

A very well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Reception hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms and refitted family bathroom. The property further benefits from having integral single garage, off road parking, rear paved patio garden, gas central heating and double glazing. PART FURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£600PCM



HAMMERSLEY CLOSE CRADLEY HEATH

An extremely well presented two bedroom starter home in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises of entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, family bathroom and two bedrooms. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing, enclosed rear garden and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM



HIGH STREET WORDSLEY

A delightful two bedroom period property situated in a prominent location with accommodation comprising of: Lounge, breakfast kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, decked rear garden and gravelled driveway affording off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£495PCM



TIMES SQUARE MERRY HILL

An extremely well presented unfurnished one bedroom apartment situated in the heart of the Merry Hill Centre close to all amenities. Accommodation comprises of Video entry system, entrance hall, fitted kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric heating and double glazing and allocated parking space. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£495PCM



CAVALIER DRIVE HALESOWEN

A very well presented first floor, two bedroom apartment in a popular and sought after location with accommodation to comprise of: Communal Entrance Hall, Private Reception, Lounge, fitted kitchen, Two bedrooms and bathroom. The property also benefits from electric heating, double glazing, allocated parking and communal gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: MAY CONSIDER SMOKERS: NO PETS: NO

£495PCM



GOSPEL END ROAD SEDGLEY

A very well presented one bedroom ground floor Apartment situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Private entrance hall, Lounge, breakfast kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, double glazing, outside communal grounds and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: MAY CONSIDER CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

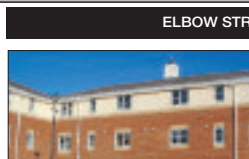
£475PCM



HENZEL CROFT BRIERLEY HILL

A Beautifully presented two bedroom second floor apartment situated in a new development close to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill centres. The accommodation comprises: Communal entrance hall with entry phone system, private entrance hall, through lounge diner, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing, electric heating, communal gardens with allocated parking and visitor bays. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£475PCM



ELBOW STREET OLDHILL

A well presented ground floor Apartment in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise: Communal entrance hall, private reception, lounge, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom with shower. The property also benefits from electric storage heating, double glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£470PCM



DADFORD VIEW BRIERLEY HILL

An attractive modern starter home situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, two Bedrooms and Shower Room. The property also benefits from sealed unit Double Glazing, small fore Garden and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£450PCM



LIDDIARD COURT WOLLASTON

An Extremely well presented one bedroom over 60's warden controlled second floor apartment situated in a highly desirable retirement complex, being close to all local amenities of Wollaston Village. Accommodation comprises of: Communal entrance with entry phone system and lift to second floor, private Entrance hall with built in airing cupboard, lounge, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric heating, communal gardens and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

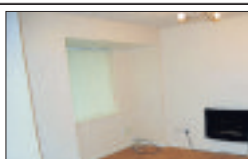
£450PCM



DADFORD VIEW BRIERLEY HILL

A well presented two bedroom town house with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge with gas fire, kitchen with gas cooker, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing and allocated parking space. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

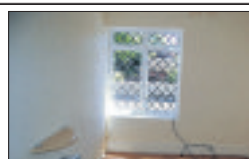
£450.00 PCM



HIGH STREET BELBROUGHTON

A two bedroom first floor apartment with private entrance situated in a highly desirable village location with accommodation to comprise of: External staircase to Private entrance hall, kitchen, inner hall, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric heating and one parking space. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: YES CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

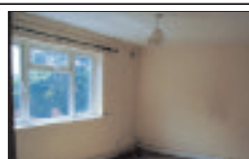
£450PCM



HAGLEY ROAD HALESOWEN

A deceptively spacious three bedroom first floor flat situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Private Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom and separate WC. The property further benefits from having night storage heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: MAY CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKING: NO

£425PCM



GRAFTON GARDENS DUDLEY

A Superb two bedroom semi detached property situated in a delightful cul-de-sac location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, cloakroom, fitted kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing, enclosed lawned rear garden and driveway affording useful off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING: B DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£600PCM



LOWER HIGH STREET STOURBRIDGE

A well presented one bedroom second floor apartment situated in the heart of Stourbridge Town Centre with accommodation to comprise of: External staircase at the rear of the property to the second floor, entrance hall, lounge/kitchen, bedroom and ensuite shower room. The property further benefits from having Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£395PCM

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WILTSHIRE DRIVE

A well presented one bedroom first floor flat situated in a popular residential location. The accommodation comprises: Entrance hall with staircase to first floor landing, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom and Double Bedroom. The property further benefits from GCH, Double Glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO SMOKERS: NO PETS: NO

£395PCM



NETHEREND LANE CRADLEY HEATH

An extremely well presented one bedroom ground floor flat situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: lounge, kitchen, bathroom and bedroom. The property further benefits from double glazing and storage heaters. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£375PCM

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Mercedes AMG has all-wheel drive



The Mercedes Benz A 45 AMG races to 62 mph in a stunning 4.6 seconds

TRADITIONAL AMG models have been big, brash and brutish in their performance delivery.

However, in the case of the A 45 AMG model, Mercedes has created a very hot hatch, thanks in the main to the class-busting 360 horsepower produced by its 2.0-litre, four-cylinder turbo engine.

In reality it's much more than a just hot hatch on steroids.

As is the case with every AMG car, you buy into the culture of the hand-built engine plus the numerous bespoke set-up and tuning modes over and above any conventional Sport-badged Mercedes. And being a thoroughly

modern AMG car, the A 45 boasts an intelligent all-wheel drive system that directs power to where you need it most. A helpful addition when car can sprint from rest to 62mph in a blistering 4.6 seconds.

With all the engine's power, comes control. Alongside the car's intelligent all-wheel drive system is a three-stage ESP set-up. Aside from the default 'On' mode, there's a second setting giving the driver some leeway before kicking in, with a third 'Off' mode promoted as a trackday setting.

Rounding off the powertrain tour is a version of Mercedes' existing double clutch gearbox. This seven-speed DSG-style gearbox can be left



Mercedes comfort and luxury you would expect

in auto or switched to a more responsive Sport mode, while chunky paddleshifters behind the steering wheel give the driver complete control in manual mode.

Cabin

Figure-hugging sports seats greet driver and passenger when you open the door, and from the sports-themed trim in the cabin it's clear that Mercedes isn't shy in promoting the A 45's performance potential. Racy, red-coloured trim and lots of faux carbon fibre are the obvious giveaways.

Still, Mercedes hopes the real thrill will be from driving. The A 45's deep exhaust note certainly suggests a good time will be had by all,



The A 45 offers a deep exhaust note that bodes well for a comfortable ride

yet the car is surprisingly civilised if you leave everything in its default setting. For many this will help make it an easy-to-live with all-rounder, which is not something you can say for some of the more extreme, rock-hard riding, traditional hot-hatch buzz boxes.

Granted, even in 'comfort' mode, you do know the A 45 is a bit special.

It's also quick, and boasts a refreshingly compliant ride in the context of a firmly suspended compact hatch. That's largely down to the value-added AMG element, which also makes its presence felt through the car's weighty and direct steering. Still, leaving the A 45 in its default settings will mean you'll fail to

reap the benefit of its GTI-plus price tag.

Switch to the gearbox's Sport mode and gearchanges are noticeably quicker, plus you're accompanied by four-cylinder versions of AMG's trademark barking, backfiring and belching exhaust note.

The sports exhaust experience is a must, and the aural rewards are impressive considering you're in a car with half the normal AMG-tuned cylinder count. Despite the presence of an all-wheel drive system, in reality the A 45 bias remains largely front-driven. This, combined with the presence of a four-pot motor, is a first for AMG, yet the firm has done a good job of making the A-Class feel special.

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*Model shown is a Trax 1.6 LT priced at £17,495 OTR. Vehicle shown features metallic paint at an extra cost of £445. Price correct at time of print.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Trax Range: Urban 34.4 (8.2) – 52.3 (5.4), Extra Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 70.6 (4.0), Combined 43.4 (6.5) – 62.7 (4.5) CO₂ emissions 153 – 120g/km. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

Motoring



The Volkswagen Jetta Limited Edition is based on the SE model and is priced at £20,750 on the road

The limited Edition VW Jetta offers great value for money

WITH its smooth ride, spacious interior, cavernous 510-litre boot and terrific towing ability, the Volkswagen Jetta has always been a great car in which to 'jet' away.

Now it offers better value than ever, thanks to the introduction of the Jetta Limited Edition.

Based on the popular Jetta SE, the Jetta Limited Edition packs in £2,900-worth of extra equipment for a premium of just £160. Only 450 of these models are available, and they are in Volkswagen retailers now at a price of £20,750 RRP OTR.

Every Jetta Limited Edition comes with a super-frugal 1.6-litre 105 PS TDI engine with BlueMotion Technology and a five-speed gearbox, return-

ing 67.3mpg on the combined cycle and emitting just 105 g/km of CO₂, meaning it qualifies for free first-year VED, and just £20 per annum thereafter.

But while it might be miserly at the pumps, the Jetta Limited Edition doesn't skimp on the luxuries.

Multi-function

Standard SE features include a leather-trimmed handbrake, gearknob and multi-function steering wheel, DAB digital radio, Bluetooth telephone connectivity, USB and iPod audio connections and cruise control.

On top of these, the Jetta Limited Edition adds Volkswagen's RNS 315 touchscreen satellite navigation system, front foglights, front and rear parking sensors, rear tinted glass, 16in

'Perth' alloys and a Convenience Pack consisting of an auto-dimming rear-view mirror, electrically foldable door mirrors with puddle lights, and automatic headlights and windscreen wipers.

The Jetta Limited Edition comes in three colours: Deep Black Pearl, Reflex Silver or Platinum Grey Metallic.

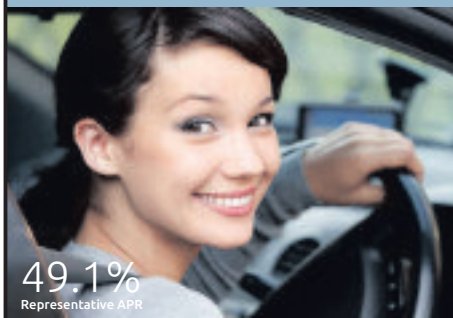
The Volkswagen Jetta Sport 2.0-litre TDI DSG was voted The Caravan Club Towcar of the Year 2012 and 2013. It is the only car to have won this prestigious title for two consecutive years. The Jetta Limited Edition has a towing capacity of 1,400kg (braked, 12 per cent incline), with a maximum noseweight capacity of 75 kg. To find out more, visit your local Volkswagen retailer - www.volkswagen.co.uk/find-a-retailer

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Fuel consumption for the Honda car range in mpg (l/100km): Urban Cycle 23.2 – 70.6 (12.2 – 4.0), Extra Urban 40.4 – 85.6 (7.0 – 3.3), Combined 32.5 – 78.5 (8.7 – 3.6). CO₂ emissions 201 – 94g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Models shown for illustrative purposes: Jazz 1.4 i-VTEC Si Manual in optional White Orchid Pearl, Civic 1.8 i-VTEC EX GT Manual in Milano Red with optional 18-inch Krypton alloy wheels and CR-V 2.2 i-DTEC EX in optional Crystal Black Pearl.

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Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

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IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

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Simply press the free ad icon.
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.
Private advertisements only.

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By Phone
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www.expressandstar.com/
bookanad

In person

At your local Express & Star Office.
Cancel/amend, call before 3.00pm
Monday - Friday for the next day's
advertisement or also before 3.00pm
Friday for Monday's advertisement.

religious notices

christadelphian

THE TRUE TEACHING OF THE BIBLE The Holy Spirit is not possessed today. August 18 at 6pm, The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Christadelphians, FREEPOST WV1681 Kingswinford DY6 9BR for free information pack or ring 01384 278585 for recorded message.

1 Family

baby needs

ROCKING CRIB, musical rocking chair, playmat, bath, etc. all perfect condition, reasonable offers.
Telephone 01902 330599.

ROCKING CRIB, musical rocking chair, playmat, bath, etc. all perfect condition, reasonable offers.
Telephone 01902 330599.

clothing - bridal

TEA LENGTH WEDDING DRESS, as new, pink and white lace, size 14, £120.
Telephone 01902 824694.

education & tuition

CLOISTERS
STOURBRIDGE TUTORIALS Est. 1992
West Midlands Premier Agency
Home individual tutoring
LOCAL QUALIFIED TUTORS
Protection of Children Act
regulated and Police checked
Primary, 11+, SATS,
Secondary, GCSE, A, Deg, etc.
0121 212 4986
01902 671683
www.cloisters tutoring.co.uk
NEW TUTORS WELCOME

elderly & disabled

GO GO PRIDE, new batteries, rain-cover, breaks into parts for car transport, can deliver local, £250.
01902 846788 or 07961 187683.

Free Ads
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items up to £250.
Online at
www.expressandstar.com/
bookanad

MOBILITY SCOOTER
Excellent condition, 4 wheels, folds into boot.
Can deliver.
£295.
Telephone 01584 891032
or 07508 311029.

RECLINING CHAIR in green, good condition, £99. Please call
01922 402813.

RECLINING/RISER CHAIR (Pride Mobility Products), oatmeal fabric, as new, £250 ono.
07798 880695 or 0121 5534037.

RISER / RECLINER chair, electric, mint in colour, 2 years old, good condition. £150. Plus New Lifts. 01952 405397/07897 273617

World of Mobility

NEW Electric Scooters from £110

£695

Second hand from £350

Manual Wheelchairs from £110

Walking Aids • Scooters • Walking Aids • Bath Aids • Bikes • Tricycles • Kitchen Aids • Ramps • Floor Scales • Cans

Electric Rise & Recline Chairs from £495

Visit our showroom or call 01384 378252

108C Brettell Lane, Ambicote Stourbridge DY8 4BS
OPEN MON-SAT 9 am-5 pm
FREE PARKING AT REAR

2 Leisure Time

boats & water sports

GP14 AND LARK Sailing Dinghies for sale. £300 ono each.
Telephone 01952 240805 or 07890 600074.

HONDA SHP 4 STROKE Outboard Engine, 4 years old, £350ono.
Call 01384 262494.

bikes

DAWES LADIES Oxford bicycle black with front basket in lovely condition, 2 yrs old, cost £400 sell £150. 07805 256076.

LADYS VINTAGE SHOPPING Bike. Professionally rebuilt. Cost £220, sell for £60. o.n.o. 01902 338906.

camping equipment

MAYPOLE TRAILER Extension sides, covers, spare wheel, jockey wheel, as new. £300. Telephone 01902 336674.

car boot sales

Ashwood CAR BOOT SALE

EVERY SUNDAY
By Roberts Farm Shop on A449 (Kingswinford) DY6 0AA
Gates open 8 am
SELLERS JUST TURN UP!
Enquiries 01701 644908
FREE PARKING FOR BUYERS
CLEAN TOILETS
www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk

AFTERNOON SUPER SATURDAY BOOTSALE
12 PM SELLERS HOLDING bigger field, 84776 Rabbit run, between Dudley & Telford, WV15 5NZ
www.bestbootsales.com
07890 267041

Best Wednesday Boot sale
10am
Pouk Lane A461 muckley corner between litchfield & walsall
Super Saturday Bootsale
8am
Barracks Lane, Walsall Wood
between Litchfield & Walsall
www.bestbootsales.com
07890 26741

The best every Saturday BOOT SALE
8am - 2pm
A454 Rudge Heath by royal oak island pub, betw W ton & Bridgnorth, WV6 7EE.
New Toilets & as much space as you want

The biggest every SUNDAY BOOT SALE
8am - 2pm
A34 Cannock chase, Cannock, ST17 0SG as much space as you want
Super every Saturday BOOTSALE
8am - 2pm
Barracks lane off A5, Walsall wood between litchfield & Walsall, WS9 9DL as much space as you want
www.bestbootsales.com
07890 267041

caravans / motorhomes

COME AND VISIT
Between Bridgnorth and Ludlow
Caravans and prices to suit you from £9000
11 month holiday season
No caravan age restriction
Details 01584 823433

A LUXURY STATIC HOLIDAY HOME CARAVAN FOR SALE

2000 Willerby Lyndhurst. Double glazing and central heating. Excellent condition, spacious plot, double private car parking. On quiet Mid Wales inland park. Free fishing, WiFi, laundrette, childrens play area. No age requirement, long holiday season (10.5 months), pets welcome.

£11,495.
07971 734329.

ABI ENVOY JUBILEE
1991/1774. 5 berth, double bed back and front, shower, toilet, full oven and cooker, blow air heating, fly screens, blinds, full awning, many extras,
£1,950 o.n.o.
07546 508762

BAILEY TOURING CARAVAN
2 berth, Beachcomber 350/2, full awning, like new, cassette toilet, shower, h/c, power touch M3 Mover, Aqua roll, Wastemaster, part 4 malencos.
£1,700. 01952 462251.

A BEAUTIFUL TOURING PARK
Between Bridgnorth and Ludlow
ADULTS ONLY
All weather Super Pitches
01584 823456
www.wheatthillpark.co.uk

CARAVAN AWNING Dorema Cascade 825 - 850cm, size 8, new last June, cost £650, sell £250 07805 256076.

CARAVAN Stirling Sprite, 1997, 2-berth, fully equipped, caravan mover, hitch / wheel lock, ready to go, £2,300. 01902 762362.

COACHMAN AMARA 2 berth, 1999, sh, superb, motor mover, full awning, other accessories, £2,950. 01384 379430 or 07721 098811.

COACHMAN AMARA, luxury 4 berth, 2002. As new condition. Huge and bathroom, C/H, screens, blinds. All extras. £3,895. 07525 106610.

ELDDIS AVANTE 505, 2004, 5 berth, excellent condition, fish mover, awnings and other extras included, £4,700. 01384 253761.

FORD TRANSIT converted to camper van, 34 reg, 10 months MOT, 1 months tax, new essential, £3,750 ono. 01902 269084.

FULL AWNING, Suncamp Mirage, size 7 (810 - 835cm), poly acrylic, green, used twice. £120. o.n.o. 01384 254530.

LUNA SHAPUR 1998, 2 berth, L shaped lounge, rear bathroom, shower, full cooker, good condition, £1,900 ono. 07748 642167.

STATIC CARAVAN 35ft x 12ft. Two-bed. Mid-Wales. £1,000 yearly rent: Paid for 2013. Immaculate condition. Everything included. £8,500. o.n.o. Telephone 07806 431799.

STATIC CARAVAN Excellent condition, large corner plot, 2 sheds, f-freezer, 2 beds, sleeps 6. Mid Wales, quiet site, lovely views, 2 fishing pools. Paid £12,500 6 months ago will accept £6,500 for quick sale 01562 825825 / 07714 771740

STATIC CARAVAN for sale at Sunnysands, Barmouth, 4 berth, Westbrook, £3,500. Please call for details 07812 417598

SWIFT CHARISMA, 2 berth, and bathroom, includes awning and some accessories. Good condition. £2,800. 01902 330339.

TWO BERTH CARAVAN Sterling Europa 460NT, 1999, good condition, shower, cassette toilet, full awning, fridge, cooker, oven, grill and extras, £2,250 ono. 07780 456283.

WILLERBY RIO
2 years old, immaculate, sleeps 6, sited adjacent River Severn Quatford/Bridgnorth, own private fishing, all fees for 2013 paid.

£16,500 negotiable.
07732 014636.

WILLERBY SALISBURY
2004, Static Caravan, 33 x 12. Two bedrooms, CH, DCH. Located on 5 star site near Ludlow and the beautiful Shropshire hills.
Excellent condition.
One owner.
£11,750.
01584 831617.

caravans wanted

All Caravans Wanted
Any Age or Condition
CASH WAITING
Immediate collection
Call Bill on 07760 344 750

music shop

GUITAR LESSONS. Any ability or style, 25 years experience. 07519 608278. www.amputuion.co.uk

MAPEX MERIDIAN
6 piece drum kit, 10, 12, 13, 16, 22, 14ins snare, black sparkle, stands and stool very good condition.
£350 ono.

Pearl signature Marvin Smith copper snare drum, 14ins x 4ins, gold plated, very collectable.
£125 ono.

Zildjian A series oriental 14ins china cymbal, very good condition
£55 ono.
01922 405640 / 07954 378757.

PEAVEY BASS SPEAKERS, for use with PA, £180 ono.
07958 461784 / 01902 402096.

sports & leisure

TAYLOR MADE RBZ irons, 10 iron set, regular steel shafts, £275 ono. 01902 687167.

TREADMILL ELECTRIC fully programmable, variable inclines / speeds, £175 ono. 01902 892405.

ticket

CRICKET TICKET for sale, Pavilion, 20/20 Final Day, Birmingham, August 17. £55. 01902 843765.

TWO V FESTIVAL TICKETS, Weekend Camping, Weston Park, £185 each. 07817 484402.

holidays

self catering holidays

NEW QUAY Wales. Pet friendly, chalets from 225pw. Also lodges available. Call 01545 580 239 woodlandsnewquay.co.uk

mind, body & soul

clairvoyance

CLAIRVOYANT JOHN STARKEY. Private appointments and home visits. Call 01802 334224.

weddings

car hire

A ALL YEAR DISCOUNT! White Rolls Cloud, Shadow & Vintage with free hire of Jaguar. 01384 236188 / 01902 887628 www.elite-wedding-services.magnix.net

function rooms

FREE FUNCTION ROOM Weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, Powerleague 01384 236600 halesowen@powerleague.co.uk

photographers

PARTY PHOTOS All events covered Mobile studio • Instant Photos Call Bryan Harris on 01562 050297 www.event-photos.pro

what's on

markets

BIGGEST SUNDAY MARKET IN THE MIDLANDS
Bescot Stadium, Walsall FC
WST 45A, FREE PARKING, J9 M6
0789 91701 All hand standing
Stall Hire Available From £21

holiday feature

35' x 12' 6 BERTH CARAVAN Small, Quiet Rural Site. Excellent Condition, UPVC Verandah and Ramp, Patio and Parking Area. Suit semi / retired £13995 inc of all fees. 07891 528061 or 01686 670408

Free Ads
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items up to £250.
www.expressandstar.com/
bookanad

Home & Services

carpets & furnishings

PAIR OF LUXURY CURTAINS, 30ins x 108ins, 15ins pelmet, cream brocade, pale green and gold flowers, £65. 01922 402024.

collectables & memorabilia

WANTED BY COLLECTOR All military and military related items, single or full. Very good prices paid. Will collect. 07592 290 155.

WANTED BY COLLECTOR All military related items, single or full. Very good prices paid. Will collect. 07592 290 155.

furniture

BEDROOM FURNITURE, high sleeper, wardrobe, two chests plus shelves, Pine, £160. 07814 255377.

BLACK LEATHER Two seater settee and matching chair in excellent condition £150. 07859 071586.

THREE PIECE cream leather suite, 3 seater, 2 chairs, British made, 8 months old from new. Bargain £450. 07514 233670.

TWO SEATER leather settee, recliner, black, single leather recliner chair, excellent, £250. Nest of tables, £15. 01902 340906.

TWO SEATER leather sofa, plus two reclining chairs, dark green, as new, £500 cash ono, buyer to collect. 01889 381411.

TWO TWO SEATER SETTEES, Pale green with cream brocade fabric. Excellent condition. £120 - £200. 01922 60204.

UNUSUAL EXAMPLE of late 20th century console table, art deco style, with mirror, £329. 07969 884247

household appliances

COOKER, Flavel Milano, electric fan, ceramic hob, W50cm, as new, under warranty, £250 01384 76202

ESSE DRAGON gas log burner, natural gas or LPG, both conversions, immaculate condition, reduced £600 ono. 07753 412107.

FRIDGE FREEZER in excellent condition, £50, can deliver 07501 863796.

in your garden

Top Soil, Building Sand Paving/Concrete Sand
Decorative Gravels
Delivered Bagged or Loose
01902 893226

A AND B GRADE CULTIVATED TURF £1.20 / £2.10 a roll. Top soil. Laying service. 07844 241613

QUALCAST as new mowers, grass collectors, 48cm/51cm, £180/£250. 01902 846788/07961 167663.

items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

CORRUGATED Roofing Sheets Also tile effect/box profile/curved and 2 purins. Call Horsey Steels 01547 530419

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce
CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Old coins • Watches Jewellery • Old toys • Clocks Paintings • All silver items Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 OR 07971 783206

ABSOLUTELY BEST price given for silver items or household goods. Antique, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

ALL ANTIQUES, bronzes, monies, medals, bikes, TVs, toys, slots, tills, old firearms, vehicles, etc.
01384 484309 or 07930 949337.

ALL BOXED / LOOSE RAILWAY COLLECTIONS WANTED

ANY GAUGE OR AGE
Also live steam, also Diecast, Dinky, Corgi, Spot On. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!

0121 602 2569/07891 713547. thetrainmaster59@hotmail.com

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES Tickets and other sports memorabilia. Top prices paid for the right item.
Call Paul on 01543 251743.

t.v. / home entertainment

sales

PANASONIC Blue Ray DVD player, as new, in original box, £30. Telephone 0121 557 1163.

service

AERIAL / TV SPECIALISTS
TV Plasma / LCD repairs
Digital aerial installation
Wall mount / set ups / etc
Plasma, LCD TV's from £99
Any area, 7 days
07850 330251

specialists at your service

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 aerial into 2 rooms
£85
1 aerial into 4 rooms
£125
SAME DAY SERVICE
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857

household appliances

COOKER, Flavel Milano, electric fan, ceramic hob, W50cm, as new, under warranty, £250 01384 76202

ESSE DRAGON gas log burner, natural gas or LPG, both conversions, immaculate condition, reduced £600 ono. 07753 412107.

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Decorative Gravels
Delivered Bagged or Loose
01902 893226

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01922 495066 OR 07971 783206

ABSOLUTELY BEST price given for silver items or household goods. Antique, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

building services

KINGSWINFORD DESIGN & BUILD. Extensions, Loft conversions, New builds and Landscaping. 01384 402636/07870 660323.

01902 317878 • www.expressandstar.com/classifiedads

Classified Ads

gardening services

For all your Patio's, Turfing, Decking, treework and Root grinding...

Prestwood FENCING & LANDSCAPING

Call us on: 01384 273586 or 07947 879403 or visit www.prestwoodfencing.co.uk for more details

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden, 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

JEZ'S GARDEN SERVICES

Lawns cut, Borders, Garden clearances, Trees lopped and shaped, Fencing, Slabbing...

Please call: 01384 403353 or 07929 600636

gas fitting

GAS SERVICES

- Boilers
- Cookers
- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

Fitted, Serviced and Repaired Same Day Service

Free Quotes

DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs

Call: 01902 366855 / 07761 937975

house clearances

A **ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavement. Tel: 07852 172641.

painters / decorators

AFFORDABLE Painters, Decorators, Property Maintenance. OAP's 30% off. Call 07580 275415.

LOVE 2 WALLPAPER

Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painter and Decorator

Quality work with competitive prices. For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle. Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken

01384 267577 or 0771 484194

MIKE ATHERTON

Painter and Decorator

Professional and friendly service, fully insured, 20yrs experience.

For a free quote call: 07780 676070

MTK PAINTING/DECORATING

City & Guilds Qualified. Call Mark 01384 340930/07825 588940

RC DECORATING Professional, Decorating Service, competitive free quotes. Call: 07773 025860.

plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans, Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

HOME EXTENSION PLANS

Council approved and free survey. C Hopley 01902 687802

plastering

P.D.P. PLASTERING & TILING All aspects of plastering & tiling. City & Guilds NVO. Call: 0750562778. www.pdpplastering.com

plumbers

TRIDENT PLUMBING

All general plumbing work undertaken. No job too small! Reliable and experienced plumber, free quotes

Call Dave

01384 823863 - 07854 338356

plumbing & heating

MARSH HEATING & PLUMBING

Plumbing, Heating, Gaswork, Gas Safe registered. Call Steve: 0796270745 / Dan: 07807818790

MIDLAND PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

All plumbing, heating, gas and electrical work. Call Luke on 01902 895108 or 07584 062483.

removals

CHEAPER REMOVALS

NATIONWIDE, INSURED, FREE QUOTES

Single Items to Full Removals. 01902 894916 / 07807 773035

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS

Local Careful Firm Full or Part loads

Call Don: 0800 587 0377 or 07749 941319

A **MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic, Deliveries/Relocation/Full house. 1 item 07429 453209/01902 830870

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, items large or small. Call: 01902 741546, 07917 679560 or 01384 468955

KINGSWINFORF REMOVALS

recession rates beat all quotes, fully experienced. 07966 281957.

roofing

MG ROOFING

Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters.

01902 238989 or 07580 465449

PREMIER ROOFING New Roofs, Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call: 01384 353600 or 07875 387445.

ROOFTOP ROOFING, flat roof specialists, fascias, soffits, gutters. Tel: 07582 442017.

skip hire

MT SKIPS

All sizes
All areas covered
Immediate delivery
Competitive prices
Fast and Reliable service

Call: 01384 240956
07920 885774

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH! No Skips, we load, fast friendly service. 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 30yrs, 01384 232559.

SAVE ON A SKIP LOAD Van loads from £20 to £80. OAP discounts. Prompt reliable service. Call Dean: 01384 823492 / 0772315165.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required passport information.

GREY GELDING 18.2, 12 years old, hacks alone or in company, XC, dressage / jumps, good to shoe, box / clip, £2,000. 07447 655189.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS

All neutered, inoculated and chipped.

Call Greyhound Trust 01922 41212 or www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

NOTICE TO READERS

Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

ADORABLE LABRADOR pups, dogs and bitches, wormed, insured, KC reg. from assured breeder, ready now. 01746 761732 or 07977 423240.

ALASKAN MALAMUTE Puppies, KC Reg. £550 each. 01902 561331 or 07914 633640.

ANIMAL CONCERN Have Hamsters, Rats, Kittens, Cats and a Chinchilla needing homes, cages and carriers. 01902 353805

BABY GUINEA PIGS long haired, males £8, females £15, pretty colours. 0121 439 0235 (Tipton).

BABY RABBITS 7 weeks old, all colours, mixed breed, netherland dwarf and lionhead, very cute, pretty. £10 each. 07903 341198.

BARGAIN FOR SALE Sunbrella Cockatoo, 15 months old, just talking, cost £350, also large cage and stand, sell £550 with certificates. 01902 829139.

BEAUTIFUL TORTOISESHELL receding shell, aged £30 to ensure good home. 07765 807608.

BICHON FRISE puppies, 2 males, both parents can be seen, £350. 07966 271190.

BLACK KITTENS with faint tiger stripes, boys and girls, ready August 14, £30 each. 01384 241651. 07703 101974.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER Puppies, KC reg. wormed, four weeks from insurance, reared with children in Family home, both parents excellent hip scores, temperament and can be seen, viewing now, ready August 24. 01630 661740.

KITTENS black and white, ready now, to good homes only, £15 each. 07453 489002.

LABRADOR PUPPIES for sale, yellow, full pedigree, 4 bitches, 1 dog, £500. 07791 872577.

ONE YEAR OLD MALE CAT Affectionate and fluffy. Seeks a loving home due to unfortunate circumstances. Tux is a black cat who loves playing and cuddles.

Please call Trudie on 07515 776318.

PUPPIES

Bichon Frise, Shih-Tzu, Shih-Poos, (Shih-Tzu/Poodle) Maltese, Beagles, Malchers (Shih-Tzu/Maltese), Cavaliers, Cocker Spaniels, Cockerpoos, (Cocker/Poodle) Cavapoo, (Cavalier/Poodle) Cavajons (Cavalier/Bichon), Chihuahua Cross and Cusihh (Pug/Shih-Tzu)

All health checked, first vaccine, wormed and de-flea'd.

£250 - £450 each.

07972 604503.

STAFFIES, 9 weeks old, dogs and bitches, good homes only. £175. 01902 569221 or 07867 811647.

STELLA

I am a 7 month old lovely Chocolate Labrador x Staffie, I was taken to the rescue centre as I had a virus that left my back legs weak.

After tests at the vets I am now ready for my new home. I need somewhere I can play in the garden or have small gentle walks.

My legs will get stronger as I get older, I am a super girl with a gentle labrador temperament.

If you could consider giving me a home please call this number

01588 630577.

FOR SALE 3 BEDROOM LODGE BRIGHTWATER LAKES

SY21 9D

Prime position. Own fishing peg. Newly refurbished. £67,500 ono.

All amenities on site. CALL 07727 408770 ginhall@btinternet.com photos available on request

flats for sale

TWO BEDROOMED MAISONETTE

Dovedale Road, Wolverhampton, £70,995. o.n.o.

Telephone 07806 485509

vets

Express & Star

THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

Free valuation. Free consultation
Any property. Any condition. Anywhere

100% Confidential. No obligation
Repossession stopped

0800 092 5743
01902 489 500
YellowSpringbok.co.uk

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

commercial premises

UNIT TO LET 4500 Sq Ft.

Brierley Hill town centre Good Rates. Contact anytime and please leave message 01746 710179.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

DSSMOVE.CO.UK the property website where properties say YES to DSS tenants.

FLAT available to rent in Featherstone Village, recently refurbished, DSS considered. 07885 832793.

FURNISHED ONE bed flat, overlooking Bantock Park, CH, own parking, recently refurbished, sorry no DSS. £475pcm. 07759 282535.

HOUSE, Lanesfield, 2-bed, CH, DG, large garden, £485 pcm. 07871 921934, deposit.

LARGE 2-BED Ground floor flat, Tipton, DG, no DSS. £425pcm. 01384 292637.

ONE BED FLAT Willenhall area, £90 pw. Deposit required. 07976 781003. No texts.

WOLVERHAMPTON, Nice, large 3 bed house, DG, CH, parking, no smokers. 07877 673330.

coast & country

FOR SALE 3 BEDROOM LODGE BRIGHTWATER LAKES

SY21 9D

Prime position. Own fishing peg. Newly refurbished. £67,500 ono.

All amenities on site. CALL 07727 408770 ginhall@btinternet.com photos available on request

flats for sale

TWO BEDROOMED MAISONETTE

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STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)

ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

WINDSOR HOLLOWAY, WHITTINGTON, NR. KINVER

DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC INCLUDING HORSES

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle or horse (being led or ridden) from proceeding in that length of Windsor Holloway, Whittington, Nr. Kinver from the western boundary of Old Forge Cottage for a distance of approximately 150 metres in an easterly direction, unless being used in connection with the works. Access to frontages will be available from one direction only using diversions where necessary, access for emergency service vehicles will only be available via the diversionary route. Through access will not be permitted. Pedestrian and cycle access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route will be available via Windsor Holloway, Cookley Lane, Church Hill, Mill Lane, Dunsley Road, A449 Kidderminster Road, Windsor Holloway and vice versa.

The ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 02 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 09.30, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 25 OCTOBER 2013 AT 16.00.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the structural maintenance works to the foundations of Whittington No. 3 Bridge, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director of Democracy, Law and Transportation

1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP

Ref: 522691; Enquiries: Shelin Mcintosh; Tel: 0300 111 8000

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders

Date: 16 August 2013

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Griffiths shows he could be new hero

Wolves 4 Gillingham 0
WOLVES fans rose from their seats to acclaim an old hero on Saturday. When the game ended, they did so again to salute perhaps a new one.

It's the third tier, Gillingham were pretty poor and Leigh Griffiths hasn't even started to walk in the footsteps of Dave Wagstaffe yet.

But you would have to go back a long way to recall a performance by a Wolves No.9 that was so enjoyable.

What took the eye was the craft and cunning of Wolves, the killer first touch, the eye for passes which instantly wrong-footed defenders and changed the angles.

Impressive Lee Evans nailed a peach of a goal; Zele Ismail is now displaying the close control which made him such a coveted young player, while Danny Bath, Matt Doherty and David Davis had already left credible imprints last season.

Richard Stearnan, Kevin Doyle and Bakary Sako, who also scored, are welcome contributors.

Griffiths scored on five minutes and completed the rout with a penalty.

Top player is toppled by Scriven

IN the last round of Stourbridge chess club's Summer tournament, Dave Scriven was in the lead by half a point but he was up against the club's top player Jeremy Fallowfield.

Jeremy gained a slight advantage in the middle game but missed the win. Dave sacrificed a knight for a pawn in the endgame to force a draw.

Julie Wilson made an error in the opening against Steve Alcock but then managed a draw. New member Sam Bradley lost against experienced Tony Taylor.

The tournament winner was Scriven on four out of five points with Fallowfield and Wilson tying for 2nd.

In the British chess championships, Nic Fallowfield played in the section for players graded under 180.

Going into the last round he was joint leader on three and a half but lost to the tournament winner finishing equal second.

For club details call Dave Scriven on 01384 423642.

Promotion this season is on – Jackett



Kenny Jackett

HEAD coach Kenny Jackett insists Wolves can win promotion this season – as the chase for Kevin McDonald dragged on.

Jackett was highly encouraged by Saturday's opening home performance against Gillingham when goals by Leigh Griffiths (2), Lee Evans and Bakary Sako gave them a 4-0 win and his first competitive victory.

"I think there's encouragement there for the players that they can do it and have a successful time," said Jackett. "That's probably the best message internally."

"Things may change during the course of the season and we'll need

Wolves

the experienced lads when people like Sam Ricketts will be vital and Kevin Doyle coming into it did really well. The young lads have had good pre-seasons and are looking for their opportunities."

"It's a transitional period which is needed after the last couple of seasons and it has to turn into good performances, as it did on Saturday."

As for the chase for McDonald, the Sheffield United midfielder still has elements of his medical to finish off.

It's understood the Blades have made a counter offer to try to keep the 24-year-old, but it doesn't match the package he's been offered at Molineux.

Wolves' bid of around £750,000 triggered a release clause in his contract and he travelled to Compton for talks and a medical on Friday.

Jackett said: "We're in talks but the deal is some way off being complete. Negotiations are ongoing. We're looking to bring players in and we're looking to strengthen the squad."

Head of football development Kevin Thelwell said: "I wouldn't say

it's financial – there are still bits and pieces of his medical to finish off as well."

Doyle, meanwhile, was linked with a £3m move to Premier League new-boys Hull City.

Reports claim the 29-year-old would have to sacrifice half his £40,000-a-week wages to secure a move back to the top flight with Steve Bruce's promoted Tigers.

But the news came as a surprise to Molineux officials, who say they hadn't heard of any approach.

Doyle made his first start of the summer on Saturday, playing 64 minutes in an impressive display.

Captain steers his side to a close win

Stourbridge 2nd XI 104 Penn 2nd XI 101
Stourbridge win

CAPTAIN'S knock of 56 secured a three-run victory to keep Stour away from the drop zone.

Penn skipper Stuart Price would have been well pleased to restrict Stour to 104 having decided to bowl first. He saw Sunil Patel bag the top five Stour batsmen, clean bowling four.

Batting at No.6 Stour skipper Mikeshe Patel top scored to keep his team in the match. Sunil Patel finished taking 5-30 off 15 overs.

What appeared to be an easy victory for Penn turned out to be a close encounter as James Winders ripped through the Penn batting line up. Skipper Price almost saw his team home with a fighting 20.

A late 24 from Oliver Slimm kept Penn interested but Winders caught bowled sealed a home victory. He returned his best performance of the season so far 7-19 off eight overs.

Stourbridge 3rd XI 127 Hanley Castle & Upton 1st XI
Hanley Castle & Upton win

Put into bat Stour were restricted to 127 off 43 overs. That was thanks to a 33 from No.9 Shabir Butt, 19 from the No.10 Aqib Rehman and 24 extras.

Barton and Todd Mathews shared three wickets apiece.

It took 33 overs for the opposition to reach the target five wickets down thanks to a not out 39 from Grant Mathews and 49 no from Rory Mathews. Ryan Willetts captured three of the wickets to fall.

H C & Upton 2nd XI 186 Stourbridge 4th XI 185
Hanley Castle & Upton win

Young Scott Ludlam who skippered for the absent Daniel Hayward decided to bat first and put up a memorable knock of 59 to take his team to a respectable total.

Openers Stephen Parker (37) and Areeb Mohammad (25) gave Stour a solid start.

A seven-man bowling attack made sure Stour did not prolong their innings.

The home side was able to reach the target just three wickets down.

The opener Ewan Finlan's 44 and a magnificent 85 from Harry Pleass batting at No.3 meant a rare defeat this season for Stour.

Stour remain in the top spot of Division Five of the Worcestershire league 15 points in front of Astwood Bank.

Welsh opponents give Stourbridge tough test

Swansea RFC 10 Stourbridge RFC 30
IT may have been a friendly but the game against Welsh side Swansea gave the Stourbridge squad a thorough workout.

Swansea's early attacks met a solid Stourbridge defence with Nigel Mukarati putting in some trademark big hits, one of which forced a turnover that was run back and forced a penalty out of the hosts. Gary Dipple pass put Ben Barkley in to score. A dropped restart forced Stourbridge to work hard in defence as the hosts moved the ball fast and wide.

A Stefan Shillingford half-break nearly put Barkley in the clear, but the offload failed and Swansea's flanker burst through a gap in the defences to put his fullback through to score.

The hosts ran a quick penalty, a neat interchange generating a breakaway try for their winger. The first 30-minute period ended 10-5.

Hoisted

After both squads made extensive changes, a deep infield kick from Gary Dipple was hoisted back by the Swansea full-back enabling Dan Thompson to move the ball left to Baker, who burst clean through a gap and fed Ash Oyekan to score in the corner.

A Swansea lineout throw was poached by James Rodley and worked to Robbie Hurrell, who crashed over to take the lead.

He then secured the restart thanks to good work from his lifters, a kick to the corner yielding a free-kick that Sione Tu'ipolotu took quickly but was held up just short of the line.

Rugby

Further drives pulled the defence out of shape enabling Dipple to step inside his defender to score.

Lucas Roy-Smith's first action was to hoist a long kick downfield, Farrington's kick chase again drawing dividends when the defender lost possession.

The ball was hacked on and Roy-Smith's tackle drew a penalty for failing to release, this was worked quickly through the hands of the centres for Rodley to cross to score. The second period ended 10-25.

After a period of stalemate Stourbridge kicked for the corner where a clean take by Nile Daacres set up a maul that was held up but Tu'ipolotu's pass found Baker in space and he dived in to ground the sixth try.

There were to be no further scores, Stourbridge's conditioning work over the last few weeks paying dividends.

Both team's attacks foundered as the tempo of the game remained breathless and passes continued to fail to go to hand.



Second row Robbie Hurrell and prop Mike Hill get stuck in



Scrumhalf Peter White just about to launch the ball



Hanging in there is Stourbridge's Robbie Hurrell



In the thick of it is Stourbridge's Chris Depper



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Firsts fail to clinch third win in a row

Eastnor 139
Stourbridge 108
Eastnor win

EASTNOR Firsts, placed seventh before the match in Division Two of the Birmingham District Premier league, stopped Stourbridge Firsts romping to their third victory on the bounce in a low-scoring match.

Eastnor, batting first, saw the openers Clive Chadhani and Andrew Fisher smash 39 off 12 overs. In the 13th over Eastnor had tumbled to 3-40 thanks to opening paceman Matt Bradley.

He had Fisher caught for 12, Sunil Rahi was caught behind and Atiq Ur Rehman trapped LBW both going for a duck.

Spinner James Wood had Adeel caught for 17 in the 26th over and an over later Wood bowled Chadani for 39. Eastnor were struggling on 77-5 off 27 overs.

The home side folded for 139 in the 43rd over.

Stour's euphoria however, disappeared as Eastnor battled their way back into the match.

Stour rendered 94-4 still needing 46 to secure the 24 points and cement one of the top spots in the Division.

Stour lost 3 wickets for 27 runs in 11 overs and slip down to third position in Division Two four points behind Harbourne in second place.

Stour are away to Attock next week noon start.

● **More results inside**

Tough test for Natalie

A MEMBER of Stourbridge Running Club competed in a Stockholm marathon.

Natalie Dellar took part in the 100k ultramarathon last weekend as temperatures soared. Despite the heat, Dellar finished the 63.2 mile race in 12 hours 15 minutes.

She said after the run: "It's the toughest thing I have ever done. I ate and drank sensibly during the race, having a gel every five miles and also picking up bananas and chunks of energy bars at the stations, things I could eat while jogging."

"At the finish line, despite it being just gone 7pm the crowds were still large."

"I put my arms in the air and I was over the line. I couldn't believe it. After I had finished the pain was immense. "My legs had seized in a way like I'd never experienced. I had the best time."

Impressive Washbourne signs for Glassboys

MIDFIELDER George Washbourne has agreed a one-year contract with Stourbridge FC after impressing in recent pre-season games.

The 19-year old attacking midfielder player began his career with Nuneaton Town's youth team and he also played some games at a senior level for Atherton Town in the Midland Alliance during the 2011-12 season. He also represented the Birmingham County FA under 18's side.

In the summer of 2012, he signed for Forest Green Rovers, but spent most of

Stourbridge Town

last season out on loan, gaining further senior experience with stints at Gloucester City, Cirencester Town and then Redditch United.

Summer

He initially linked up with Worcester City this summer before making the switch to trial for Stourbridge at the end of July. George is currently studying at the University of Worcester.

Leaving the club is summer signing

Jack Cresswell, with the former Redditch and Sutton Coldfield midfielder joining Midland Combination Premier club, Studley, while boss Gary Hackett has also decided against retaining trialist Connor Deards, the former Walsall and Redditch United frontrunner.

The Calor League Premier Division match between Stourbridge and Chesham United on Saturday, August 24 will be played at Redditch United, kick-off 3pm. This is due to the War Memorial Athletic Ground being unavailable to use on that date as Stourbridge Cricket Club

will be playing. Being a Bank Holiday weekend and with further matches scheduled for the Monday, it has not been possible to change the match date.

Campaign

The Glassboys first home league game of the season against St Neots Town on Tuesday, August 20 will, however, be staged at their home ground with kick-off at 7.45pm.

Stourbridge kick-off their 2013-14 campaign with a visit to Hampshire outfit AFC Totton this Saturday.

Flyers hit three for away win

Willenhall Town 1 Lye 3
DIVISION title favourites Lye grabbed the victory over Willenhall despite The Lockmen battling hard.

The Lockmen dominated the opening 20 minutes culminating in Aaron Hatfield rattling the underside of the bar from a free-kick.

The Flyers first serious attempt on goal saw them awarded a penalty, which ex-Reds favourite Damian Whitcombe hammered against the bar.

It was a short-lived respite as the dangerous Kieron Bennett set up Steve Weaver and his mis-hit shot rolled into the corner of the net.

Five minutes before half-time Whitcombe atoned when a left wing cross found him in the box and his mis-hit effort found the back of the net via a post.

On the hour Lye were awarded a second penalty, which skipper Robin Sheffield but Steve Booth got down and across to push it away.

Booth then denied Weaver before Willenhall got back into the game on 74 minutes as Jake Morgan guided home Jamel Fuller's cross.

The visitors settled any nerves when Weaver was left unmarked two minutes later and to volley into the corner.

Baggies sign up striker Vydra, 21

ALBION have completed the signing of signing of Czech Republic international Matej Vydra on a season-long loan from Udinese.

The 21-year-old will train with his team-mates today after passing a medical at the weekend and flying to Prague to link up with his international colleagues.

Head coach Steve Clarke said: "I'm delighted."

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NARROW LOSS SEES END TO WARM-UPS

Solihull Moors 1 Stourbridge 0

THE Glassboys went down to a narrow 1-0 defeat at Conference North outfit Solihull Moors in their final warm-up game.

The match proved to be a good work-out for Gary Hackett's man and a great test against opposition from a higher division ahead of next Saturday's big kick-off to the season.

The game had a good tempo and the Glassboys played well in the opening half before the hosts stepped up a gear after the break and the visitors found the going harder in the second period.

Home custodian Jas Singh was called into action twice in the opening 10 minutes alone.

In the sixth minute Luke Benbow combined with Ben Billingham down the right before Benbow laid the ball back into the path of Sean Geddes and he drilled in a shot that was safely clutched by Singh.

Chance

Two minutes later Billingham cut in from the right and powered in a shot that was parried by the keeper.

Solihull hit back on 15 minutes with Darryl Knights having a free-kick saved by Dean Coleman following a foul outside the box by Andre Francis.

Stourbridge had a good chance to take the lead when Will Richards battled to win possession and leave Drew Canavan in the clear, but he lifted his effort over the bar.

Solihull striker Omar Bogle then went close for the hosts on two occasions.

On the half-hour mark Bogle dribbled forward towards the Stourbridge box

Stourbridge Town

before feeding Knights on the left. His cross into the middle was chested down by Bogle and he struck a shot just past Coleman's left-hand post.

Three minutes later Bogle curled a shot inches over Coleman's crossbar.

Five minutes before the interval Geddes dispossessed Ryan Beswick and he advanced towards goal before hitting a low shot that beat Singh, but rebounded off the base of the left-hand upright.

Solihull started the second half brightly, however, Stourbridge carved out the first opening as Billingham found Geddes, who was half stopped, but the ball broke to Richards on the right-hand side of the box and he hit a low angled shot that was blocked by Singh.

The deadlock was finally broken by the home side close to the hour mark as Knights sent over a cross from the left which was controlled by sub Joel Grandison before he beat Coleman with a low shot.

The hosts had the better of proceedings after that, but the Glassboys defended determinedly to prevent the hosts finding a second goal in the last half-hour.

Applause for Waggy makes his son so proud



A number 11 shirt is placed in front of the North Bank on Saturday at Molineux in tribute to Dave Wagstaffe, the Wolves legend who died last week, aged 70.

DAVE WAGSTAFFE'S son said he was the "proudest man" at Molineux as Wolves paid their respects to his father.

Scott Wagstaffe joined his family and former team-mates of 'Waggy' at Saturday's game against Gillingham, which Wolves won 4-0.

He expressed his gratitude at the

tribute to Waggy, who died aged 70 last Tuesday at his home in Tettenhall after a short illness.

Fans held a minute's applause in honour of the wing wonder, before Wolves captain Sam Ricketts placed Waggy's number 11 shirt behind the goal at the North Bank end of the pitch. "I was the proudest man at the

game and I would like to thank all the great supporters who paid tribute to my dad (Waggy)," said Scott.

"Holding up the shirt he wore during the League Cup final and hearing the applause was absolutely fantastic."

"Many thanks again from the Wagstaffe family."

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